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(54) Title: OP-3-INDUCED MORPHOGENESIS

(57) Abstract

Disclosed are (1) nucleic acid and amino acid sequences for a novel morphogenic protein; (2) methods for producing and expressing the protein in a biologically active form; and (3) methods for utilizing the protein to induce tissue morphogenesis in a mammal, including methods for increasing a progenitor cell population in a mammal, methods for stimulating progenitor cells to differentiate and maintain their differentiated phenotype in vivo or in vitro, methods for inducing tissue-specific growth in vivo and methods for the replacement of diseased or damaged tissue in vivo.

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OP-3-INDUCED MORPHOGENESIS

Field of the Invention

This invention relates generally to the field of tissue morphogenesis and more particularly to a novel protein that induces tissue morphogenesis in mammals.

Background of the Invention

Cell differentiation is the central characteristic of morphogenesis which initiates in the embryo, and continues to various degrees throughout the life of an organism in adult tissue repair and regeneration mechanisms. The degree of morphogenesis in adult tissue varies among different tissues and is related, among other things, to the degree of cell turnover in a 15 given tissue. On this basis, tissues can be divided into three broad categories: (1) tissues with static cell populations such as nerve and skeletal muscle where there is no cell division and most of the cells formed during early development persist throughout adult life; (2) tissues containing conditionally renewing populations such as liver where there is generally little cell division but, in response to an appropriate stimulus, cells can divide to produce daughters of the same differentially defined type; and 25 (3) tissues with permanently renewing populations including blood, testes and stratified squamous

epithelia which are characterized by rapid and continuous cell turnover in the adult. Here, the terminally differentiated cells have a relatively short life span and are replaced through proliferation of a distinct subpopulation of cells, known as stem or progenitor cells.

The cellular and molecular events which govern the stimulus for differentiation of these cells is an area of intensive research. In the medical field, it is anticipated that the discovery of factor(s) which control cell differentiation and tissue morphogenesis will advance significantly medicine's ability to repair and regenerate diseased or damaged mammalian tissues and organs. Particularly useful areas include reconstructive surgery and in the treatment of tissue degenerative diseases including arthritis, emphysema, osteoporosis, cardiomyopathy, cirrhosis, and degenerative nerve diseases.

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A number of different factors have been isolated in recent years which appear to play a role in cell differentiation. Recently, various members of the structurally related proteins of the transforming growth factor (TGF)-β superfamily of proteins have been identified as true morphogens.

This "family" of proteins, sharing substantial amino acid sequence homology within their

30 morphogenically active C-terminal domains, including a conserved six or seven cysteine skeleton, are capable

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of inducing tissue-specific morphogenesis in a variety of organs and tissues, including bone, cartilage, liver, dentin, periodontal ligament, cementum, nerve tissue and the epithelial mucosa of the 5 gastrointestinal tract. The proteins apparently bind to surface receptors or otherwise contact and interact with progenitor cells, predisposing or stimulating the cells to proliferate and differentiate in a morphogenically permissive environment. The morphogens 10 are capable of inducing the developmental cascade of cellular and molecular events that culminate in the formation of new organ-specific tissue, including any vascularization, connective tissue formation, and nerve ennervation as required by the naturally occurring 15 tissue.

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Among the proteins useful in tissue morphogenesis are proteins originally identified as bone inductive proteins, such as the OP-1, (also referred to in related applications as "OP1"), OP-2 (also referred to in related applications as "OP2"), and the CBMP2 proteins, as well as amino acid sequence-related proteins such as BMP5, BMP6 and its murine homolog, Vgr-1, DPP and 60A (from Drosophila), Vgl (from Xenopus), and GDF-1 (from mouse) see, for example, U.S. Patent No. 5,011,691 to Oppermann et al., Lee (1991) PNAS 88: 4250-4254, and Wharton et al. (1991) PNAS 88: 9214-9218. These TGF-β superfamily members comprise a distinct subfamily of proteins different from other members of the TGF-β superfamily in that the family of morphogenic proteins are able to induce the full

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cascade of events that result in tissue morphogenesis, including stimulating cell proliferation and cell differentiation of progenitor cells, and supporting the growth and maintenance of differentiated cells. The 5 morphogenic proteins apparently can act as endocrine, paracrine or autocrine factors. Specifically, the endogenous morphogens may be synthesized by the cells on which they act, by neighboring cells, or by cells of a distant tissue, the secreted protein being 10 transported to the cells to be acted on. In addition, the family of morphogenic proteins induce true tissue morphogenesis, rather than inducing formation of fibrotic (scar) tissue as, for example, TGF-β does.

15 The morphogens are synthesized in the cell as a precursor molecule approximately three times larger than the mature protein that is processed to yield mature disulfide-linked dimers comprising the C-terminal domain of the precursor sequence. 20 proteins are inactive when reduced e.g., in monomeric but are active as oxidized homodimeric species as well as when oxidized in combination with other morphogens under conditions to produce heterodimers. The proteins useful in tissue morphogenesis typically 25 require a suitable environment enabling cells to migrate, proliferate and differentiate in a tissuespecific manner into, e.g., cartilage-producing chondroblasts, bone-producing osteoblasts, hemopoietic cells, or liver cells, depending on the nature of the

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local environment. The proliferation and differentiation of cells induced by the morphogenic proteins requires a suitable local environment, including a suitable substratum on which the cells can anchor. The proliferating and differentiating cells also require the presence of appropriate signals to direct their tissue-specificity, such as cell surface markers.

10 It is an object of this invention to provide a novel purified morphogenic protein, "OP-3", including the amino acid sequence defining it and nucleic acids encoding it, including allelic, species, chimeric, and other amino acid sequence variants thereof, whether 15 naturally occurring or biosynthetically constructed, and methods for utilizing the protein to induce the developmental cascade of tissue morphogenesis for a variety of tissues in mammals. The morphogenic properties of OP-3 include the ability to induce 20 proliferation and differentiation of progenitor cells, and the ability to support and maintain the differentiated phenotype through the progression of events that results in the formation of adult tissue. Another object is to provide methods for the expression 25 and isolation of morphogenically active species of OP-3 using recombinant DNA techniques. Yet another object is to provide generic sequences defining useful morphogens. Still another object is to provide tissuespecific acellular matrices that may be used in 30 combination with OP-3, and methods for their

preparation. Other objects include utilizing OP-3 in a variety of applications including methods for increasing a progenitor cell population in a mammal; methods for stimulating progenitor cells to

5 differentiate in vivo or in vitro and to maintain their differentiated phenotype; methods for inducing tissue—specific growth in vivo, and methods for the replacement of diseased or damaged tissue in vivo.

These and other objects and features of the invention will be apparent from the description, drawings, and claims which follow.

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Summary of the Invention

A novel substantially pure genetic sequence encoding a novel substantially pure protein referred to 5 herein as "OP-3" now has been discovered. This novel protein is a member of the morphogenic protein family previously described by Applicants (see, for example, US92/01968 (WO92/15323), and US92/07432 (WO93/05751). Accordingly, the invention provides methods for 10 utilizing OP-3 to induce the developmental cascade of tissue morphogenesis in a mammal. Specifically, methods are provided for utilizing OP-3 to induce the proliferation of uncommitted progenitor cells, to induce the differentiation of these stimulated 15 progenitor cells in a tissue-specific manner under appropriate environmental conditions, and to support the growth and maintenance of these differentiated cells. The protein also may be used to stimulate the "redifferentiation" of cells that have strayed from 20 their differentiated phenotypes. Accordingly, OP-3 can be utilized to initiate and maintain the developmental cascade of tissue morphogenesis in an appropriate, morphogenically permissive environment.

As used herein, useful OP-3 morphogens include proteins encoded by the DNA sequence provided in Seq. ID No. 1 ("mOP-3") and allelic and species variants thereof, as well as other naturally-occurring and biosynthetic amino acid sequence variants, including chimeric proteins, that are morphogenically active as

defined herein. "Morphogenically active fragment" is understood to include all proteins and protein fragments encoded by part or all of the sequence of Seq. ID No. 1 and which have morphogenic activity as 5 defined herein. Specifically, as defined herein, a morphogen is a dimeric protein comprising a pair of polypeptide chains, wherein each polypeptide chain comprises at least the C-terminal six cysteine skeleton defined by residues 303 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1 (or residues 335-431 of OP1, Seq. ID no. 3), including 10 functionally equivalent arrangements of these cysteines (e.g., amino acid insertions or deletions which alter the linear arrangement of the cysteines in the sequence but not their relationship in the folded structure), such that, when the polypeptide chains are folded, the dimeric protein species comprising the pair of polypeptide chains has the appropriate threedimensional structure, including the appropriate intraor inter-chain disulfide bonds such that the protein is 20 capable of acting as a morphogen as defined herein. Specifically, the morphogens generally are capable of all of the following biological functions in a morphogenically permissive environment: stimulating proliferation of progenitor cells; stimulating the 25 differentiation of progenitor cells; stimulating the proliferation of differentiated cells; and supporting the growth and maintenance of differentiated cells.

In one aspect, the morphogens of this invention 30 comprise a morphogenically active dimeric species comprising a pair of polypeptide chains, wherein at

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least one of the polypeptide chains comprises the amino acid sequence defined by residues 303 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1 including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof. In preferred morphogens, at 5 least one polypeptide chain comprises the sequence defined by residues 298-399, residues 261-399 or residues 264-399 of Seq. ID No. 1. Alternatively, the amino acid sequence of both polypeptide chains may be defined by part or all of the amino acid sequence of 10 Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof, including naturally-occurring sequence or biosynthetically constructed variants, and chimeric constructs as described below. Where only one polypeptide chain is defined by the amino acid sequence of part or all of Seq. ID. No. 1, the other polypeptide chain preferably comprises at least the sequence defining the C-terminal six cysteine skeleton of any of the other known morphogen family members, including OP-1, OP-2, CBMP2A, 20 CBMP2B, BMP3, BMP5, BMP6, Vgr-1, Vgl, 60A, DPP and GDF-1, described, for example, in US92/07432 (WO93/05751), including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof, including chimeric variants. Other useful sequences include biosynthetic constructs, such as are described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,011,691.

In still another aspect of the invention, generic sequences are provided which accommodate the sequence identity of useful morphogens and incorporate OP-3's novel features.

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In another aspect of the invention, morphogens of this invention comprise morphogenically active proteins encoded by part or all of the genetic sequence listed in Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof. In still another aspect, the invention comprises morphogens encoded by nucleic acids that hybridize to part or all of the proregion of the OP-3 protein, bases 120 to 848 of Seq ID No. 1, under stringent hybridization conditions. As used herein, "stringent hybridization conditions" are defined as hybridization in 40% formamide, 5 x SSPE, 5 x Denhardt's Solution, and 0.1% SDS at 37°C overnight, and washing in 0.1 x SSPE, 0.1% SDS at 50°C.

15 In one aspect of the invention, morphogenically active fragments of OP-3 are useful in the replacement of diseased or damaged tissue in a mammal, including, but not limited to, damaged lung tissue resulting from emphysema; cirrhotic tissue, including cirrhotic kidney 20 or liver tissue; damaged heart or blood vessel tissue, as may result from cardiomyopathies and/or atherothrombotic or cardioembolic strokes; damaged stomach and other mucosal tissues of the gastrointestinal tract resulting from ulceric 25 perforations and/or their repair; damaged nerve tissue as may result from physical injury, degenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's disease, multiple sclerosis, or strokes; damaged cartilage and bone tissue as may result from metabolic bone diseases and

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other bone remodeling disorders; damaged dentin, periodontal and/or cementum tissue as may result from disease or mechanical injury; and in the replacement of damaged tissue as a result of inflammation and/or 5 chronic inflammatory disease.

As provided herein, morphogenically active fragments of OP-3 are provided to a tissue-specific locus in vivo, to induce the developmental cascade of 10 tissue morphogenesis at that site. Cells stimulated ex vivo by contact with OP-3 also may be provided to the tissue locus. In these cases the existing tissue provides the necessary matrix requirements, providing a suitable substratum or scaffold for the proliferating 15 and differentiating cells in a morphogenically permissive environment, as well as providing the necessary signals for directing the tissue-specificity of the developing tissue. The proteins or stimulated cells also may be combined with a formulated matrix and implanted as a device at a locus in vivo. 20 formulated matrix should be a biocompatible, preferably biodegradable acellular matrix having the characteristics described below. Where the necessary signals for directing the tissue-specificity of the 25 developing tissue are not provided endogenously, the matrix preferably also is tissue-specific.

In another aspect, the members of the morphogen protein family also can control the body's cellular and humoral inflammatory response to a foreign object or an initial tissue injury. In many instances, the loss of

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tissue function results from the tissue destructive effects and the subsequent formation of scar tissue associated with the body's immune/inflammatory response to an initial or repeated injury to the tissue. 5 degree of scar tissue formation generally depends on the regenerative properties of the injured tissue, and on the degree and type of tissue damage. Thus, in another aspect, morphogenically active fragments of OP-3 may be used to prevent or to substantially inhibit 10 the formation of scar tissue, including alleviating immune response-mediated tissue damage, by providing OP-3 or cells stimulated by exposure to OP-3 protein, to a newly injured tissue locus. The OP-3 protein also may be provided as a prophylactic, provided to a site 15 in anticipation of tissue injury, such as part of a surgical or other clinical procedure likely to produce tissue damage, and to induce an inflammatory/immune response. In a particularly useful embodiment, OP-3 may be used as part of a transplant procedure, to 20 enhance the tissue viability of the organ and/or tissue to be transplanted. The morphogen may be provided to the organ and/or tissue to be transplanted prior to harvest, during its transport, and/or during transplantation into the recipient host as described 25 below.

OP-3 also may be used to increase or regenerate a mesenchymal progenitor or stem cell population in vitro or in a mammal. For example, progenitor cells may be isolated from an individual's bone marrow, stimulated

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ex vivo with morphogenic OP-3 for a time and at a concentration sufficient to induce the cells to proliferate, and returned to the bone marrow. Other sources of progenitor cells that may be suitable include biocompatible cells obtained from a cultured cell line, stimulated in culture, and subsequently provided to the body. Alternatively, OP-3 may be provided by systemic (e.g., oral or parenteral) administration, or it may be injected or otherwise 10 provided to a progenitor cell population in an individual to induce its mitogenic activity in vivo. For example, a morphogenically active fragment of OP-3 may be provided to the cells in vivo, e.g., by systemic injection, to induce mitogenic activity. Similarly, a 15 particular population of hemopoietic stem cells may be increased by exposure to OP-3, for example by perfusing (plasmaphoresing) an individual's blood to extract the cells of interest, stimulating these cells ex vivo, and returning the stimulated cells to the blood.

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It is anticipated that the ability to augment an individual's progenitor cell population will enhance existing methods for treating disorders resulting from a loss or reduction of a renewable cell population significantly. Two particularly significant applications include the treatment of blood disorders and diseases involving impaired or lost immune function.

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The morphogens of this invention also can inhibit proliferation of epithelial cell populations. The ability to inhibit epithelial cell proliferation may be exploited to reduce tissue damage associated with psoriasis and dermatitis, and other inflammatory skin diseases, as well as ulcerative diseases of the gastrointestinal tract, such as, for example, in the healing of ulcers, including gastric ulcers, and the ulcerations induced in oral mucocitis and inflammatory bowel disease. Morphogens may be used to particular advantage as a cytoprotective agent in clinical therapies likely to effect proliferating epithelial populations, such as cancer radiotherapies and chemotherapies that typically induce oral mucositis, hair loss and/or skin disorders.

In another aspect of the invention, morphogenic OP-3 may be used to support the growth and maintenance of differentiated cells, inducing existing

20 differentiated cells to continue expressing their phenotype. It is anticipated that this activity will be particularly useful in the treatment of tissue disorders where loss of function is caused by reduced or lost metabolic function in which cells become

25 senescent or quiescent, such as may occur in aging cells and/or may be manifested in osteoporosis and a number of nerve degenerative diseases, including Alzheimer's disease. Application of OP-3 directly to the cells to be treated, or providing it systemically, as by oral or parenteral administration, can stimulate

these cells to continue expressing their phenotype, thereby significantly reversing the effects of the dysfunction. In addition, a morphogenically active fragment of OP-3 also may be used in gene therapy protocols to stimulate the growth of quiescent cells, thereby potentially enhancing the ability of these cells to incorporate exogenous DNA.

In yet another aspect of the invention, a

10 morphogenically active fragment of OP-3 also may be
used to induce "redifferentiation" of cells that have
strayed from their differentiation pathway, such as can
occur during tumorgenesis. It is anticipated that this
activity will be particularly useful in treatments to

15 reduce or substantially inhibit the growth of
neoplasms. The method also is anticipated to induce
the de- and/or re-differentiation of these cells. As
described supra, a morphogenically active OP-3 fragment
may be provided to the cells directly or systemically,
20 stimulating these cells to revert back to a morphology
and phenotype characteristic of untransformed cells.

In still another aspect of the invention, OP-3 may be used to stimulate cell adhesion molecule (CAM)

25 expression levels in a cell. CAMs are molecules defined as carrying out cell-cell interactions necessary for tissue formation. CAMs are believed to play a fundamental regulatory role in tissue development, including tissue boundary formation,

embryonic induction and migration, and tissue stabilization and regeneration. Altered CAM levels have been implicated in a number of tissue disorders, including congenital defects, neoplasias, and 5 degenerative diseases.

In particular, N-CAM expression is associated with normal neuronal cell development and differentiation, including retinal formation, synaptogenesis, and nerve-10 muscle tissue adhesion. Inhibition of one or more of the N-CAM isoforms is known to prevent proper tissue development. Altered N-CAM expression levels also are associated with neoplasias, including neuroblastomas (see infra), as well as with a number of neuropathies, 15 including normal pressure hydrocephalous and type II schizophrenia. Application of the morphogen directly to the cells to be treated, or providing the morphogen to the mammal systemically, for example, parenterally, or indirectly by oral administration, may be used to 20 induce cellular expression of one or more CAMs, particularly N-CAMs and L1.

CAMs also have been postulated as part of a morphoregulatory pathway whose activity is induced by a 25 to date unidentified molecule (See, for example, Edelman, G.M. (1986) Ann. Rev. Cell Biol., 2:81-116). Without being limited to any given theory, the morphogens described herein may act as inducers of this pathway.

The matrices utilized in the methods of the invention may be derived from organ-specific tissue, or they may be formulated synthetically. In one embodiment of the invention, when OP-3 (or a collection 5 of progenitor cells stimulated by OP-3) is provided at a tissue-specific locus, e.g., by systemic administration, implantation or injection at a tissuespecific locus, the existing tissue at that locus, whether diseased or damaged, has the capacity of acting as a suitable matrix or scaffold for the differentiation and proliferation of migrating progenitor cells. Alternatively, a formulated matrix may be provided externally together with the stimulated progenitor cells or morphogenically active OP-3 15 fragment, as may be necessary when the extent of injury sustained by the damaged tissue is large. The matrix should be a biocompatible, suitably modified acellular matrix having dimensions such that it allows the differentiation and proliferation of migratory progenitor cells, and is capable of providing a morphogenically permissive environment. The matrix also preferably allows cellular attachment and is biodegradable. Where the necessary tissue-directing signals can not be provided endogenously, the matrix preferably also is tissue-specific. 25

Formulated matrices may be generated from dehydrated organ-specific tissue prepared, for example, by treating the tissue with solvents to substantially remove the intracellular, non-structural components

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from the tissue. Alternatively, the matrix may be formulated synthetically using a biocompatible, preferably in vivo biodegradable, structural molecule, and may be formulated with suitable tissue-specific 5 cell attachment factors. The molecule may be a naturally occurring one such as collagen, laminin or hyaluronic acid, or a synthetic polymer comprising, for example, polylactic acid, polybutyric acid, polyglycolic acid, and copolymers thereof. Currently 10 preferred structural polymers comprise tissue-specific collagens. Currently preferred cell attachment factors include glycosaminoglycans and proteoglycans. matrix further may be treated with an agent or agents to increase the number of pores and micropits on its 15 surfaces, so as to enhance the influx, proliferation and differentiation of migratory progenitor cells from the body of the mammal.

The invention thus relates to compositions and
methods for the use of morphogenically active fragments
of OP-3, a novel species variant of the generic family
of morphogens disclosed in USSN 667,274 and USSN
752,764, as a tissue morphogen. Morphogenically active
OP-3 and protein fragments can be isolated from
naturally-occurring sources, or they may be constructed
biosynthetically using conventional recombinant DNA
technology. Active OP-3 useful in the compositions and
methods of this invention may include forms having
varying glycosylation patterns, varying N-termini and
active truncated forms, e.g., produced by recombinant

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DNA techniques. Active OP-3 proteins also include chimeric constructs as described below, comprising both an OP-3 active domain and a non-OP-3 sequence as, for example, the pro domain and/or the N-terminal region of 5 the mature protein. OP-3 protein can be expressed from intact or truncated cDNA or from synthetic DNAs in procaryotic or eucaryotic host cells, and purified, cleaved, refolded, and dimerized to form morphogenically active compositions. Useful host cells 10 include procaryotes, including E. coli, and eucaryotic cells, including mammalian cells, such as CHO, COS, melanoma or BSC cells, or the insect/baculovirus Thus recombinant DNA techniques may be system. utilized to produce large quantities of OP-3 capable of 15 inducing tissue-specific cell differentiation and tissue morphogenesis in a variety of mammals, including humans.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is a nucleotide sequence comparison of the mouse cDNA sequence of OP-2 and OP-3. Exon boundaries are indicated by bars beneath the sequence; diamonds indicate nucleotide differences within exons 2 and 3; and

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Figure 2 is an immunoblot comparing mammalian cell expression of an OPI/OP3 chimeric protein construct (lanes 4-8) with that of authentic, recombinant OP1 (lane 1).

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Detailed Description

The invention provides a novel genetic sequence, mOP-3, encoding a novel protein, OP-3, having 5 morphogenic properties. The genetic sequence originally was identified in a mouse cDNA library, and the invention provides methods for identifying and isolating the gene from other species. As will be appreciated by those skilled in the art, the methods 10 described herein also may be used to isolate the OP-3 gene from other libraries, including genomic libraries. The invention also provides means for producing the OP-3 genetic sequence and the encoded protein. invention further provides methods and compositions for 15 inducing the developmental cascade of tissue morphogenesis in a mammal utilizing morphogenically active fragments of OP-3. The methods and compositions provided herein may be utilized in a range of applications, including stimulating the proliferation 20 and/or differentiation of progenitor cells and inducing the repair and regeneration of damaged tissue. morphogenic OP-3 species of the invention are novel members of the family of morphogens disclosed in US92/01968 (WO92/15323) and US92/07432 (WO93/05751). 25 As described herein, OP-3 may be isolated from natural sources or constructed biosynthetically utilizing conventional recombinant DNA technology or constructed synthetically using standard chemical techniques.

Morphogenically active fragments of OP-3 are useful for initiating and maintaining the tissue-specific developmental cascade in a variety of tissues,

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including, but not limited to, bone, cartilage, dentin, neural tissue, liver, periodontal ligament, cementum, lung, heart, kidney and numerous tissues of the gastrointestinal tract. When combined with naive 5 mesenchymal progenitor cells as disclosed herein, OP-3 can induce the proliferation and differentiation of these progenitor cells. In the presence of appropriate tissue-specific signals to direct the differentiation of these cells, and a morphogenically permissive 10 environment, OP-3 is capable of reproducing the cascade of cellular and molecular events that occur during embryonic development to yield functional tissue. For example, the protein can induce the de novo formation of cartilage and endochondral bone, including inducing 15 the proliferation and differentiation of progenitor cells into chondrocytes and osteoblasts, inducing appropriate mineralization and bone remodeling, inducing formation of an appropriate bone tissue vascular supply and inducing formation of 20 differentiated bone marrow (see Example 7 below.)

Provided below is a detailed description of the nucleic acid and amino acid sequences which describe OP-3 proteins useful in the compositions and methods of this invention, including a description of how to make them, and methods and means for their therapeutic administration. Also provided are numerous, nonlimiting examples which (1) illustrate the suitability of these proteins as tissue morphogens and therapeutic agents, and (2) provide assays with which to test the morphogens encompassed by the invention in

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different tissues. Also provided in Example 9 is a method for screening compounds to identify morphogen stimulating agents capable of stimulating endogenous OP-3 expression and/or secretion. OP-3 stimulating agents then may be used in any of the therapeutic applications described herein in place of, or in addition to, OP-3 protein administration.

I. Useful Morphogens

10

As defined herein a protein is morphogenic if it is capable of inducing the developmental cascade of cellular and molecular events that culminate in the formation of new, organ-specific tissue and comprises 15 at least the conserved C-terminal six cysteine skeleton or its functional equivalent (see supra). Specifically, the morphogens generally are capable of all of the following biological functions in a morphogenically permissive environment: stimulating 20 proliferation of progenitor cells; stimulating the differentiation of progenitor cells; stimulating the proliferation of differentiated cells; and supporting the growth and maintenance of differentiated cells. Details of how the morphogen family of proteins 25 described herein first were identified, as well as a description of how to make, use and test them for morphogenic activity are disclosed, for example, in international application US92/01968 (WO92/15323). As disclosed therein, the morphogens may be purified from 30 naturally-sourced material or recombinantly produced

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from procaryotic or eucaryotic host cells, preferably as described therein. Alternatively, novel morphogenic sequences may be identified following the procedures disclosed therein.

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Particularly useful morphogens identified to date include OP-1, OP-2, CBMP2A and CBMP2B (the morphogenically active domains of proteins referred to in the art as BMP2A and BMP2B, or BMP2 and BMP4,

10 respectively), BMP3, BMP5, BMP6, Vgr-1, GDF-1, Vgl, DPP and 60A, including their allelic and species variants, as well as other amino acid sequence variants, including chimeric morphogens. Morphogenically active biosynthetic constructs such as those disclosed in U.S.

15 Pat. No. 5,011,691, (e.g., COP-1, COP-3, COP-4, COP-5, COP-7, and COP-16) also are envisioned to be useful.

The novel morphogen OP-3 and its genetic sequence now have been identified. The OP-3 proteins useful in the invention include any morphogenically active fragment of the OP-3 amino acid sequence present in Seq. ID No. 1, or allelic, species or other amino acid sequence variants thereof. The morphogenically active fragment of OP-3 also may include any morphogenically active protein encoded by part or all of the nucleic acid sequence presented in Seq. ID No. 1. The morphogenic protein also may comprise a protein encoded by part or all of a nucleic acid which hybridizes to at least part of the nucleic acid sequence encoding the "pro" region of the OP-3 protein, e.g., bases 120-848 of Seq. ID No. 1, under stringent conditions.

The mOP-3 gene encodes a protein ("mOP-3") first expressed as an immature translation product that is 399 amino acids in length. This precursor form, referred to herein as the "prepro" form, (Seg. ID. 5 No. 1, amino acid residues 1-399) includes an N-terminal signal peptide sequence, typically less than about 20 residues, followed by a "pro" domain that is cleaved to yield the mature sequence. The "pro" form of the protein includes the pro domain and the mature 10 domain, and forms a soluble species that appears to be the primary form secreted from cultured mammalian cells. The signal peptide, anticipated to include residues 1-17 for mOP3, is cleaved rapidly upon translation, at a cleavage site that can be predicted 15 in a given sequence using the method of Von Heijne ((1986) Nucleic Acids Research 14:4683-4691). The preferred form of morphogenically active OP-3 protein comprises a processed sequence, including fragments thereof, appropriately dimerized and disulfide bonded. 20 Where a soluble form of the protein is desired, the protein preferably comprises both the mature domain, or an active portion thereof, and part or all of the pro domain.

By amino acid sequence homology with other, known morphogens, the pro domain likely is cleaved at residues 257-260 of Seq. ID No. 1, which represent the canonical Arg-Xaa-Xaa-Arg cleavage site, to yield a mature sequence 139 amino acids in length (Seq. ID No. 1, residues 261-399). Alternatively, the pro domain may be cleaved at residues 260-263 to yield a

shorter sequence 135 amino acids in length (Seq. ID No. 1, amino acid residues 264-399). All morphogens, including OP-1, OP-2 and the OP-3 proteins disclosed herein, comprise at least a conserved six cysteine 5 skeleton in the amino acid sequence C-terminal domain and, preferably, a conserved seven cysteine skeleton (see, for example, US92/01968 (WO92/15323). The conserved six cysteine skeleton in mOP-3 (Seq. ID No. 1) is defined by amino acid residues 303-399; the 10 conserved seven cysteine skeleton is defined by amino acid residues 298-399. In addition to the conserved six cysteine skeleton found in known morphogen family members including OP-1, OP-2, CBMP2A, CBMP2B, BMP3, BMP5, BMP6, Vgr-1, Vgl, 60A, DPP and GDF-1, described, 15 for example, in PCT/US92/07432 (WO93/05751), the OP-3 proteins, like the OP-2 proteins, also has one additional cysteine residue (residue 338 of Seg. ID No. 1) in the conserved C-terminal domain.

The mature sequence of OP-3 shares significant amino acid sequence homology with the morphogens identified to date. Specifically, the seven cysteine fragment shows greater than 79% amino acid identity with the corresponding mOP-2 and hOP-2 sequences, and greater than 66% identity with the corresponding OP-1 sequences. Like OP-2, OP-3 has an eighth cysteine within the seven cysteine domain (e.g., at position 338 of Seq. ID No. 1). In addition, OP-3 is unique among

- 26 -

the morphogens identified to date in that the residue at position 9 in the conserved seven cysteine domain (e.g., residue 315 of Seq. ID No. 1) is a serine, whereas other morphogens typically have a tryptophan at this location (see Table I below, and Table II in PCT/US92/07358 (WO93/04692), for example.)

As used herein, "amino acid sequence homology" is understood to mean amino acid sequence similarity, and 10 homologous sequences share identical or similar amino acids, where similar amino acids are conserved amino acids as defined by Dayoff et al., Atlas of Protein Sequence and Structure; vol.5, Suppl.3, pp.345-362 (M.O. Dayoff, ed., Nat'l BioMed. Research Fdn., 15 Washington D.C. 1978.) Thus, a candidate sequence sharing 70% amino acid homology with a reference sequence requires that, following alignment of the candidate sequence with the reference sequence, 70% of the amino acids in the candidate sequence are identical 20 to the corresponding amino acid in the reference sequence, or constitute a conserved amino acid change "Amino acid sequence identity" is understood to require identical amino acids between two aligned sequences. Thus, a candidate sequence sharing 60% 25 amino acid identity with a reference sequence requires that, following alignment of the candidate sequence with the reference sequence, 60% of the amino acids in the candidate sequence are identical to the corresponding amino acid in the reference sequence.

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As used herein, all homologies and identities calculated use OP-3 as the reference sequence. Also as used herein, sequences are aligned for homology and identity calculations using the method of Needleman et al. (1970) <u>J.Mol. Biol.</u> 48:443-453 and identities calculated by the Align program (DNAstar, Inc.) In all cases, internal gaps and amino acid insertions in the candidate sequence as aligned are ignored when making the homology/identity calculation.

10

Thus, useful OP-3 variants include, but are not limited to, amino acid sequences derived from Seq. ID No. 1 and wherein the cysteine at position 338 is replaced with another amino acid, preferably a tyrosine, histidine, isoleucine or serine and conservative substitutions thereof, e.g., such as defined by Dayoff et al., Atlas of Protein Sequence and Structure; vol. 5, Suppl. 3, pp.345-362 (M.O. Dayoff, ed., Nat'l BioMed. Research Fdn., Washington D.C. 1979.). Still other useful OP-3 variants include proteins wherein the serine at position 315 is replaced with another amino acid, preferably a tryptophan and conservative substitutions thereof.

Sequence 8 (Seq. ID No. 13) disclosed below, accommodate the homologies shared among perferred morphogen protein family members identified to date, including OP-1, OP-2, OP-3, CBMP2A, CBMP2B, BMP3, 60A, DPP, Vgl, BMP5, BMP6, Vrg-1, and GDF-1. The amino acid sequences for these proteins are described herein (see

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Sequence Listing and Table I below) and/or in the art, as well as in PCT publication US 92/07358, filed August 28, 1992, for example. The generic sequences include both the amino acid identity shared by these sequences in the C-terminal domain, defined by the six and seven cysteine skeletons (Generic Sequences 7 and 8, respectively), as well as alternative residues for the variable positions within the sequence. The generic sequences allow for an additional cysteine at position 41 (Generic Sequence 7) or position 46 (Generic Sequence 8), providing an appropriate cysteine skeleton where inter- or intramolecular disulfide bonds can form, and containing certain critical amino acids which influence the tertiary structure of the proteins.

15

Generic Sequence 7

Leu Xaa Xaa Xaa Phe

20 Xaa Xaa Xaa Gly Trp Xaa Xaa Xaa

1

10

Xaa Xaa Pro Xaa Xaa Xaa Ala

15 20

Xaa Tyr Cys Xaa Gly Xaa Cys Xaa

25 25 30

- 29 -

45

Xaa Pro Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa

35

Xaa Xaa Xaa Asn His Ala Xaa Xaa

5 Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa

40

50

Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Cys

60

Cys Xaa Pro Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa

10 65

55

Xaa Xaa Xaa Leu Xaa Xaa Xaa

70 75

Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Val Xaa Leu Xaa

80

15 Xaa Xaa Xaa Met Xaa Val Xaa

85 90

Xaa Cys Xaa Cys Xaa

95

wherein each Xaa is independently selected from a group of one or more specified amino acids defined as follows: "Res." means "residue" and Xaa at res.2 = (Tyr or Lys); Xaa at res.3 = Val or Ile); Xaa at res.4 = (Ser, Asp or Glu); Xaa at res.6 = (Arg, Gln, Ser, Lys or Ala); Xaa at res.7 = (Asp or Glu); Xaa at res.8 =

(Leu, Val or Ile); Xaa at res.11 = (Gln, Leu, Asp, His, Asn or Ser); Xaa at res.12 = (Asp, Arg, Asn or Glu); Xaa at res. 13 = (Trp or Ser); Xaa at res.14 = (Ile or Val); Xaa at res.15 = (Ile or Val); Xaa at res.16 (Ala 5 or Ser); Xaa at res.18 = (Glu, Gln, Leu, Lys, Pro or Arg); Xaa at res.19 = (Gly or Ser); Xaa at res.20 = (Tyr or Phe); Xaa at res.21 = (Ala, Ser, Asp, Met, His, Gln, Leu or Gly); Xaa at res.23 = (Tyr, Asn or Phe); Xaa at res.26 = (Glu, His, Tyr, Asp, Gln, Ala or Ser); 10 Xaa at res.28 = (Glu, Lys, Asp, Gln or Ala); Xaa at res.30 = (Ala, Ser, Pro, Gln, Ile or Asn); Xaa at res.31 = (Phe, Leu or Tyr); Xaa at res.33 = (Leu, Val or Met); Xaa at res.34 = (Asn, Asp, Ala, Thr or Pro); Xaa at res.35 = (Ser, Asp, Glu, Leu, Ala or Lys); Xaa 15 at res.36 = (Tyr, Cys, His, Ser or Ile); Xaa at res.37 = (Met, Phe, Gly or Leu); Xaa at res.38 = (Asn, Ser or Lys); Xaa at res.39 = (Ala, Ser, Gly or Pro); Xaa at res.40 = (Thr, Leu or Ser); Xaa at res.44 = (Ile, Val or Thr); Xaa at res.45 = (Val, Leu, Met or Ile); Xaa at 20 res.46 = (Gln or Arg); Xaa at res.47 = (Thr, Ala or Ser); Xaa at res.48 = (Leu or Ile); Xaa at res.49 = (Val or Met); Xaa at res.50 = (His, Asn or Arg); Xaa at res.51 = (Phe, Leu, Asn, Ser, Ala or Val); Xaa at res.52 = (Ile, Met, Asn, Ala, Val, Gly or Leu); Xaa at 25 res.53 = (Asn, Lys, Ala, Glu, Gly or Phe); Xaa at res.54 = (Pro, Ser or Val); Xaa at res.55 = (Glu, Asp, Asn, Gly, Val, Pro or Lys); Xaa at res.56 = (Thr, Ala, Val, Lys, Asp, Tyr, Ser, Gly, Ile or His); Xaa at res.57 = (Val, Ala or Ile); Xaa at res.58 = (Pro or 30 Asp); Xaa at res.59 = (Lys, Leu or Glu); Xaa at res.60 = (Pro, Val or Ala); Xaa at res.63 = (Ala or

Val); Xaa at res.65 = (Thr, Ala or Glu); Xaa at res.66 = (Gln, Lys, Arg or Glu); Xaa at res.67 = (Leu, Met or Val); Xaa at res.68 = (Asn, Ser, Asp or Gly); Xaa at res.69 = (Ala, Pro or Ser); Xaa at res.70 = (Ile, Thr, 5 Val or Leu); Xaa at res.71 = (Ser, Ala or Pro); Xaa at res.72 = (Val, Leu, Met or Ile); Xaa at res.74 = (Tyr or Phe); Xaa at res.75 = (Phe, Tyr, Leu or His); Xaa at res.76 = (Asp, Asn or Leu); Xaa at res.77 = (Asp, Glu, Asn, Arg or Ser); Xaa at res.78 = (Ser, Gln, Asn, Tyr 10 or Asp); Xaa at res.79 = (Ser, Asn, Asp, Glu or Lys); Xaa at res.80 = (Asn, Thr or Lys); Xaa at res.82 = (Ile, Val or Asn); Xaa at res.84 = (Lys or Arg); Xaa at res.85 = (Lys, Asn, Gln, His, Arg or Val); Xaa at res.86 = (Tyr, Glu or His); Xaa at res.87 = (Arg, Gln, 15 Glu or Pro); Xaa at res.88 = (Asn, Glu, Trp or Asp); Xaa at res.90 = (Val, Thr, Ala or Ile); Xaa at res.92 = (Arg, Lys, Val, Asp, Gln or Glu); Xaa at res.93 = (Ala, Gly, Glu or Ser); Xaa at res.95 = (Gly or Ala) and Xaa at res.97 = (His or Arg).

20

As described above, Generic Sequence 8 (Seq. ID No. 13) includes all of Generic Sequence 7 and in addition includes the following sequence at its N-terminus:

Cys Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa 1 5

Accordingly, beginning with residue 7, each "Xaa" in Generic Seq. 8 is a specified amino acid defined as 30 for Generic Seq. 7, with the distinction that each residue number described for Generic Sequence 7 is

shifted by five in Generic Seq. 8. Thus, "Xaa at res.2 = (Tyr or Lys)" in Gen. Seq. 7 refers to Xaa at res. 7 in Generic Seq. 8. In Generic Seq. 8, Xaa at res.2 = (Lys, Arg, Ala or Gln); Xaa at res.3 = (Lys, Arg or Met); Xaa at res.4 = (His, Arg or Gln); and Xaa at res.5 = (Glu, Ser, His, Gly, Arg, Pro, Thr, or Tyr).

Table I, set forth below, compares the C-terminal amino acid sequences defining the seven cysteine skeleton of human OP-1, mouse OP-1, human OP-2, mouse OP-2, and mouse OP-3 (mOP-3, Seq. ID No. 1). In the table, the sequences are aligned essentially following the method of Needleman et al. (1970) J. Mol. Biol., 48:443-453, calculated using the Align Program 15 (DNAstar, Inc.) In the table, three dots indicates that the amino acid in that position is the same as the amino acid in hOP-1. Three dashes indicate that no amino acid is present in that position, and are included for purposes of illustrating homologies. 20 is apparent from the following amino acid sequence comparisons, significant amino acid sequence homology exists between mouse OP-3 and mouse and human OP-1 and OP-2.

25

		TABLE I							
	hOP-1	Cys	Lys	Lys	His	Glu	Leu	Tyr	Val
30	mOP-1	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •
	hOP-2	• • •	Arg	Arg		• • •	• • •	• • •	
	mOP-2	• • •	Arg	Arg		• • •			
	mOP-3	• • •	Arg	Arg	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	•••
35		1				5			

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	•	•			.:					
	hOP-1	Ser	Phe	Arg	Asp	Leu	Gly	Trp	Gln	Asp
	mOP-1		• • •	•••	•••	• • •	•••	•••	• • •	•••
	hOP-2	• • •	• • •	Gln	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	Leu	• • •
_	mOP-2	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	•••	• • •	Leu	• • •
5	mOP-3	• • •	•••	•••	•••	• • •	•••	• • •	Leu	• • •
			10					15		
	hOP-1	Trp	Ile	Ile	Ala	Pro	Glu	Gly	Tyr	Ala
10	mOP-1	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	•••	
	hOP-2	• • •	Val	• • •	• • •	• • •	Gln	• • •	• • •	Ser
	mOP-2	• • •	Val	• • •	• • •	• • •	Gln	• • •	• • •	Ser
	mOP-3	Ser	Val	•••	• • •	• • •	Gln	• • •	• • •	Ser
15				20				•	25	
	hOP-1	Ala	Tyr	Tyr	Cys	Glu	Gly	Glu	Cys	Ala
	mOP-1	•••	•••	•••	•••	• • •	• • •		•••	• • •
20	hOP-2	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •				• • •	Ser
	mOP-2	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	•••	• • •	
	mOP-3	• • •	• • •	•••	• • •	Ala	• • •	• • •	• • •	Ile
25					30					35
	hOP-1	Phe	Pro	Leu	Asn	Ser	Tyr	Het	Asn	Ala
	mOP-1	•••		•••	• • •		-,-			
	hOP-2	•••	•••	•••	Asp	•••	Cys	•••	•••	•••
	mOP-2	• • •		• • •	Asp	• • •	Cys	• • •	• • •	• • •
30	mOP-3	Tyr	• • •	•••	•••	• • •	Cys	• • •	• • •	Ser
	·					40				
	h0P-1	Thr	Asn	His	Ala	Ile	Val	Gln	Thr	Leu
35	mOP-1	• • •	• • •	• • •	•••	• • •				• • •
	h0P-2	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	Leu	• • •	Ser	• • •
	mOP-2	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	Leu	• • •	Ser	• • •
	mOP-3	• • •	•••	•••	•••	Thr	Het	• • •	Ala	. • • •
40		45					50			
	h0P-1	Val	His	Phe	Ile	Asn	Pro	Glu	Thr	Val
	mOP-1	,	1112	· · ·	175	ASII		Asp	1111	
45	hOP-2	•••	• • • •	Leu	Het	Lys	• • •	Asp Asn	Ala	• • •
	mOP-2	•••	• • •	Leu	Ket	Lys	• • •	Asp	Val	• • •
	mOP-3	•••	• • •	Leu	Met	Lys	• • •	Asp	Ile	Ile
			55					60		
50			,,					00		

	24	
_	⊀Δ.	_

	hOP-1 mOP-1 hOP-2	Pro	Lys	Pro Ala	Cys	Cys 	Ala 	Pro	Thr	Gln Lys
5	mOP-2 mOP-3	• • •	•••	Ala Val	•••	•••	Val	•••	•••	Lys Glu
				65					70	
10	hOP-1 mOP-1	Leu	Asn	Ala	Ile	Ser	Val	Leu	Tyr	Phe
	hOP-2 mOP-2 mOP-3	•••	Ser Ser Ser	•••	Thr Thr	•••	 Leu	•••	•••	Tyr Tyr Tyr
15					75					80
20	hOP-1 mOP-1 hOP-2 mOP-2 mOP-3	Asp	Asp Ser Ser Arg	Ser Asn	Ser Asn Asn	Asn	Val	Ile 	Leu	Lys Arg Arg Arg
25		•	_			85				
	hOP-1 mOP-1 hOP-2 mOP-2	Lys	Tyr His His	Arg	Asn	Met 	Val	Val 	Arg Lys Lys	
30	mOP-3	Arg 90	Glu	•••	•••	•••	••• 95	•••	Gln	
				,			,,,,,			
35	hOP-1 mOP-1 hOP-2 mOP-2 mOP-3	Ala 	Cys	Gly	Cys	His				
40				100						

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II. Formulations and Methods for Administering OP-3 Protein as Therapeutic Agents

II.A OP-3 Protein Considerations

5

The morphogens described herein may be provided to an individual by any suitable means, preferably directly or systemically, e.g., parenterally or orally. Where the morphogen is to be provided directly (e.g., locally, as by injection, to a desired tissue site), or parenterally, such as by intravenous, subcutaneous, intramuscular, intraorbital, ophthalmic, intraventricular, intracranial, intracapsular, intraspinal, intracisternal, intraperitoneal, buccal, 15 rectal, vaginal, intranasal or by aerosol administration, the morphogen preferably comprises part of an aqueous solution. The solution is physiologically acceptable so that in addition to delivery of the desired morphogen to the patient, the 20 solution does not otherwise adversely affect the patient's electrolyte and volume balance. The aqueous medium for the morphogen thus may comprise normal physiologic saline (0.9% NaCl, 0.15M), pH 7-7.4. aqueous solution containing the morphogen can be made, 25 for example, by dissolving the protein in 50% ethanol, or acetonitrile containing 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) or 0.1% HCl, or equivalent solvents. One volume of the resultant solution then is added, for example, to ten volumes of phosphate buffered saline (PBS), 30 which further may include 0.1-0.2% human serum albumin The resultant solution preferably is vortexed (HSA). extensively.

If desired, a given morphogen may be made more soluble by association with a suitable molecule. For example, association of the mature dimer with the pro domain of the morphogen increases solubility of the 5 protein significantly. For example, the pro form of OP-3 comprises a species that is soluble in physiologically buffered solutions. In fact, the endogenous protein is thought to be transported (e.g., secreted and circulated) to particular tissues in this This soluble form of the protein may be obtained from the culture medium of morphogen-secreting mammalian cells. Alternatively, a soluble species may be formulated by complexing the mature dimer (or an active fragment thereof) with part or all of a pro domain. Another molecule capable of enhancing solubility and particularly useful for oral administrations, is casein. For example, addition of 0.2% casein increases solubility of the mature active form of OP-1 by 80%. Other components found in milk 20 and/or various serum proteins also may be useful.

Useful solutions for oral or parenteral administration may be prepared by any of the methods well known in the pharmaceutical art, described, for example, in Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences, (Gennaro, A., ed.), Mack Pub., 1990. Formulations may include, for example, polyalkylene glycols such as polyethylene glycol, oils of vegetable origin, hydrogenated naphthalenes, and the like. Formulations for direct administration, in particular, may include glycerol and other compositions of high viscosity.

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Biocompatible, preferably bioresorbable polymers, including, for example, hyaluronic acid, collagen, tricalcium phosphate, polybutyrate, polylactide, polyglycolide and lactide/glycolide copolymers, may be useful excipients to control the release of the morphogen in vivo.

Other potentially useful parenteral delivery systems for these morphogens include ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer particles, osmotic pumps, implantable infusion systems, and liposomes. Formulations for inhalation administration may contain as excipients, for example, lactose, or may be aqueous solutions containing, for example, polyoxyethylene-9-lauryl ether, glycocholate and deoxycholate, or oily solutions for administration in the form of nasal drops, or as a gel to be applied intranasally.

Alternatively, the morphogens described herein may
20 be administered orally. Oral administration of
proteins as therapeutics generally is not practiced as
most proteins readily are degraded by digestive enzymes
and acids in the mammalian digestive system before they
can be absorbed into the bloodstream. However, the
25 morphogens described herein typically are acid-stable
and protease-resistant (see, for example, U.S. Pat. No.
4,968,590.) In addition, at least one morphogen, OP-1,
has been identified in bovine mammary gland extract,
colostrum and milk, as well as saliva. Moreover, the
30 OP-1 purified from mammary gland extract is
morphogenically active. For example, this protein

induces endochondral bone formation in mammals when implanted subcutaneously in association with a suitable matrix material, using a standard in vivo bone assay, such as is disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 4,968,590. 5 addition, endogenous morphogen also is detected in human serum. These findings indicate that oral and parenteral administration are viable means for administering morphogens to an individual. Moreover, while the mature forms of certain morphogens described 10 herein typically are sparingly soluble, the morphogen form found in milk (and mammary gland extract and colostrum) is readily soluble, probably by association of the mature, morphogenically active form with the pro domain of the intact sequence and/or by association 15 with one or more milk components. Accordingly, the compounds provided herein also may be associated with molecules capable of enhancing their solubility in vitro or in vivo, including, for example, part or all of a morphogen pro domain, as described below, and 20 casein, as described above.

The compounds provided herein also may be associated with molecules capable of targeting the morphogen to a desired tissue. For example,

25 tetracycline and diphosphonates (bisphosphonates) are known to bind to bone mineral, particularly at zones of bone remodeling, when they are provided systemically in a mammal. Accordingly, these molecules may be included as useful agents for targeting OP-3 to bone tissue.

30 Alternatively, an antibody or other binding protein that interacts specifically with a surface molecule on

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the desired target tissue cells also may be used. Such targeting molecules further may be covalently associated to the morphogen, e.g., by chemical crosslinking, or by using standard genetic engineering means to create, for example, an acid labile bond such as an Asp-Pro linkage. Useful targeting molecules may be designed, for example, using the single chain binding site technology disclosed, for example, in U.S. Pat. No. 5,091,513.

10

As described above, the morphogen family members share significant sequence homology in the C-terminal active domains. By contrast, the sequences diverge significantly in the sequences which define the pro 15 domain and the N-terminal 39 amino acids of the mature protein. Accordingly, the pro domain and/or N-terminal sequence may be morphogen-specific. As described above, it also is known that the various morphogens identified to date are differentially expressed in the 20 different tissues. Accordingly, without being limited to any given theory, it is likely that, under natural conditions in the body, selected morphogens typically act on a given tissue. Accordingly, part or all of morphogen-specific sequences may serve as targeting 25 molecules for the morphogens described herein. example, the pro domains may interact specifically with one or more molecules at the target tissue to direct the morphogen associated with the pro domain to that Thus, another useful targeting molecule for 30 targeting OP-3 to bone tissue, for example, may include part or all of a morphogen-specific sequence, such as

part or all of a pro domain and/or the N-terminus of the mature protein. Particularly useful are the morphogen-specific sequences of OP-1, BMP2 or BMP4, all of which proteins are found naturally associated with 5 bone tissue (see, for example, US Pat. No. 5,011,691). Alternatively, the morphogen-specific sequences of GDF-1 may be used to target morphogenic OP-3 to nerve tissue, particularly brain tissue where GDF-1 appears to be primarily expressed (see, for example, Lee, 10 (1991) PNAS, 88:4250-4254. As described above, pro forms of the proteins may be obtained from the culture medium of morphogen-secreting mammalian cells. Alternatively, a suitable species may be formulated by complexing the mature dimer (or an active fragment 15 thereof) with part or all of a pro domain. Chimeric OP-3 proteins comprising, for example, non-OP-3 pro domains and/or non-OP-3 N-termini, may be synthesized using standard recombinant DNA methodology and/or automated chemical nucleic acid synthesis methodology 20 well described in the art and as disclosed below.

Finally, the OP-3 proteins provided herein may be administered alone or in combination with other molecules known to have a beneficial effect on tissue 25 morphogenesis, including molecules capable of tissue repair and regeneration and/or inhibiting inflammation. Examples of useful cofactors for stimulating bone tissue growth in osteoporotic individuals, for example, include but are not limited to, vitamin D₃, calcitonin, prostaglandins, parathyroid hormone, dexamethasone, estrogen and IGF-I or IGF-II. Useful cofactors for

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nerve tissue repair and regeneration may include nerve growth factors. Other useful cofactors include symptom-alleviating cofactors, including antiseptics, antibiotics, antiviral and antifungal agents and analgesics and anesthetics.

The compounds provided herein can be formulated into pharmaceutical compositions by admixture with pharmaceutically acceptable nontoxic excipients and carriers. As noted above, such compositions may be prepared for parenteral administration, particularly in the form of liquid solutions or suspensions; for oral administration, particularly in the form of tablets or capsules; or intranasally, particularly in the form of powders, nasal drops or aerosols. Where adhesion to a tissue surface is desired the composition may include the morphogen dispersed in a fibrinogen-thrombin composition or other bioadhesive such as is disclosed, for example in PCT US91/09275, (WO92/10567). The composition then may be painted, sprayed or otherwise applied to the desired tissue surface.

The compositions can be formulated for parenteral or oral administration to humans or other mammals in therapeutically effective amounts, e.g., amounts which provide appropriate concentrations of OP-3 to target tissue for a time sufficient to induce morphogenesis, including particular steps thereof, as described above.

Where OP-3 is to be used as part of a transplant procedure, the morphogen may be provided to the living tissue or organ to be transplanted prior to removal of tissue or organ from the donor. OP-3 may be provided to the donor host directly, as by injection of a formulation comprising OP-3 into the tissue, or indirectly, e.g., by oral or parenteral administration, using any of the means described above.

Alternatively or, in addition, once removed from the donor, the organ or living tissue may be placed in a preservation solution containing OP-3. In addition, the recipient also preferably is provided with the morphogen just prior to, or concommitant with,

15 transplantation. In all cases, OP-3 may be administered directly to the tissue at risk, as by injection to the tissue, or it may be provided systemically, either by oral or parenteral administration, using any of the methods and

20 formulations described herein and/or known in the art.

Where OP-3 comprises part of a tissue or organ preservation solution, any commercially available preservation solution may be used to advantage. For example, useful solutions known in the art include Collins solution, Wisconsin solution, Belzer solution, Eurocollins solution and lactated Ringer's solution. Generally, an organ preservation solution usually possesses one or more of the following properties: (a) an osmotic pressure substantially equal to that of the inside of a mammalian cell, (solutions typically are

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hyperosmolar and have K+ and/or Mg++ ions present in an amount sufficient to produce an osmotic pressure slightly higher than the inside of a mammalian cell); (b) the solution typically is capable of maintaining 5 substantially normal ATP levels in the cells; and (c) the solution usually allows optimum maintenance of glucose metabolism in the cells. Organ preservation solutions also may contain anticoagulants, energy sources such as glucose, fructose and other sugars, metabolites, heavy metal chelators, glycerol and other materials of high viscosity to enhance survival at low temperatures, free oxygen radical inhibiting and/or scavenging agents and a pH indicator. description of preservation solutions and useful 15 components may be found, for example, in US Patent No. 5,002,965.

OP-3 is envisioned to be useful in enhancing viability of any organ or living tissue to be

20 transplanted. The morphogens may be used to particular advantage in lung, heart, liver, kidney or pancreas transplants, as well as in the transplantation and/or grafting of bone marrow, skin, gastrointestinal mucosa, and other living tissues.

25

As will be appreciated by those skilled in the art, the concentration of the compounds described in a therapeutic composition will vary depending upon a number of factors, including the dosage of the drug to 30 be administered, the chemical characteristics (e.g.,

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hydrophobicity) of the compounds employed, and the route of administration. The preferred dosage of drug to be administered also is likely to depend on such variables as the type and extent of tissue loss or 5 defect, the overall health status of the particular patient, the relative biological efficacy of the compound selected, the formulation of the compound, the presence and types of excipients in the formulation, and the route of administration. In general terms, the 10 compounds of this invention may be provided in an aqueous physiological buffer solution containing about 0.001 to 10% w/v compound for parenteral administration. Typical dose ranges are from about 10 ng/kg to about 1 g/kg of body weight per day; a 15 preferred dose range is from about 0.1 μ g/kg to 100 mg/kg of body weight. No obvious morphogen-induced pathological lesions are induced when mature morphogen (e.g., OP-1, 20 μ g) is administered daily to normal growing rats for 21 consecutive days. Moreover, 10 μ g 20 systemic injections of morphogen (e.g., OP-1) injected daily for 10 days into normal newborn mice does not produce any gross abnormalities.

II.B Matrix Preparation

25

A morphogenically active fragment of OP-3 may be implanted surgically, dispersed in a biocompatible, preferably in vivo biodegradable matrix appropriately modified to provide a structure or scaffold in which the OP-3 may be dispersed and which allows the differentiation and proliferation of migrating

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progenitor cells. The matrix also may provide signals capable of directing the tissue specificity of the differentiating cells, as well as providing a morphogenically permissive environment, being essentially free of growth inhibiting signals.

The formulated matrix may be shaped as desired in anticipation of surgery or may be shaped by the physician or technician during surgery. Thus, the 10 material may be used in topical, subcutaneous, intraperitoneal, or intramuscular implants to repair tissue or to induce its growth de novo. The matrix preferably is biodegradable in vivo, being slowly absorbed by the body and replaced by new tissue growth, 15 in the shape or very nearly in the shape of the implant. The matrix also may be particulate in nature.

Details of how to make and how to use the matrices useful in this invention are disclosed below.

20

II.B(i) Tissue-Derived Matrices

Suitable biocompatible, in vivo biodegradable acellular matrices may be prepared from naturallycoccurring tissue. The tissue is treated with suitable agents to substantially extract the cellular, nonstructural components of the tissue. The agents also should be capable of extracting any morphogenesis inhibiting components associated with the tissue. The resulting material is a porous, acellular matrix, substantially depleted in nonstructurally-associated components.

The matrix also may be further treated with agents that modify the matrix, increasing the number of pores and micropits on its surfaces. Those skilled in the art will know how to determine which agents are best 5 suited to the extraction of nonstructural components for different tissues. For example, soft tissues such as liver and lung may be thin-sectioned and exposed to a nonpolar solvent such as, for example, 100% ethanol, to destroy the cellular structure of the tissue and 10 extract nonstructural components. The material then may be dried and pulverized to yield nonadherent porous particles or it may be maintained as a gel-like solution. Structural tissues such as cartilage and dentin where collagen is a primary proteinaceous 15 component may be demineralized and extracted with quanidinium hydrochloride, essentially following the method of Sampath et al. (1983) PNAS 80:6591-6595. example, pulverized and demineralized dentin is extracted with five volumes of 4M guanidinium-HCl, 50mM 20 Tris-HCl, pH 7.0 for 16 hours at 4°C. The suspension then is filtered. The insoluble material that remains is collected and used to fabricate the matrix. material is mostly collagenous in matter. of morphogenic activity. The matrix particles may 25 further be treated with a collagen fibril-modifying agent that extracts potentially unwanted components from the matrix, and alters the surface structure of the matrix material. Useful agents include acids, organic solvents or heated aqueous media. A detailed 30 description of these matrix treatments are disclosed, for example, in U.S. Patent No. 4,975,526 and PCT publication US90/00912, published September 7, 1990 (WO90/10018).

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The currently most preferred agent is a heated aqueous fibril-modifying medium such as water, to increase the matrix particle surface area and porosity. The currently most preferred aqueous medium is an acidic aqueous medium having a pH of less than about 4.5, e.g., within the range of about pH 2 - pH 4 which may help to "swell" the collagen before heating. 0.1% acetic acid, which has a pH of about 3, currently is most preferred. 0.1 M acetic acid also may be used.

10

Various amounts of delipidated, demineralized guanidine-extracted bone collagen are heated in the aqueous medium (1g matrix/30ml aqueous medium) under constant stirring in a water jacketed glass flask, and maintained at a given temperature for a predetermined period of time. Preferred treatment times are about one hour, although exposure times of between about 0.5 to two hours appear acceptable. The temperature employed is held constant at a temperature within the range of about 37°C to 65°C. The currently preferred heat treatment temperature is within the range of about 45°C to 60°C.

After the heat treatment, the matrix is filtered,
25 washed, lyophilized and used for implant. Where an
acidic aqueous medium is used, the matrix also is
preferably neutralized prior to washing and
lyophilization. A currently preferred neutralization
buffer is a 200mM sodium phosphate buffer, pH 7.0. To
30 neutralize the matrix, the matrix preferably first is

allowed to cool following thermal treatment, the acidic aqueous medium (e.g., 0.1% acetic acid) then is removed and replaced with the neutralization buffer and the matrix agitated for about 30 minutes. The

5 neutralization buffer then may be removed and the matrix washed and lyophilized.

Other useful fibril-modifying treatments include acid treatments (e.g., trifluoroacetic acid and 10 hydrogen fluoride) and solvent treatments such as dichloromethane, acetonitrile, isopropanol and chloroform, as well as particular acid/solvent combinations.

- After contact with the fibril-modifying agent, the treated matrix may be washed to remove any extracted components, following a form of the procedure set forth below:
- 20 1. Suspend matrix preparation in TBS (Trisbuffered saline) 1g/200 ml and stir at 4°C for 2 hrs; or in 6 M urea, 50 mM Tris-HCl, 500 mM NaCl, pH 7.0 (UTBS) or water and stir at room temperature (RT) for 30 minutes (sufficient time to neutralize the pH);
 - 2. Centrifuge and repeat wash step; and
 - 3. Centrifuge; discard supernatant; water wash residue; and then lyophilize.

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Alternatively, suitable matrix materials may be obtained commercially. For example, an extracellular matrix extract such as MatrigelTM, (Collaborative Research, Inc., Bedford) derived from mouse sarcoma 5 cells, may be used to advantage.

II.B(ii) Synthetic Matrices

In addition to the naturally-derived tissue-10 specific matrices described above, useful tissuespecific matrices may be formulated synthetically. These porous biocompatible, in vivo biodegradable synthetic matrices are disclosed in PCT publication US91/03603, published December 12, 1991 (WO91/18558). 15 Briefly, the matrix comprises a porous crosslinked structural polymer of biocompatible, biodegradable collagen and appropriate, tissue-specific glycosaminoglycans as tissue-specific cell attachment factors. Collagen derived from a number of sources may 20 be suitable for use in these synthetic matrices, including insoluble collagen, acid-soluble collagen, collagen soluble in neutral or basic aqueous solutions, as well as those collagens which are commercially available.

25

Glycosaminoglycans (GAGs) or mucopolysaccharides are hexosamine-containing polysaccharides of animal origin that have a tissue specific distribution, and therefore may be used to help determine the tissue

specificity of the morphogen-stimulated differentiating cells. Reaction with the GAGs also provides collagen with another valuable property, i.e., inability to provoke an immune reaction (foreign body reaction) from an animal host.

Chemically, GAGs are made up of residues of hexosamines glycosidically bound and alternating in a more-or-less regular manner with either hexouronic acid 10 or hexose moieties (see, e.g., Dodgson et al. in Carbohydrate Metabolism and its Disorders (Dickens et al., eds.) Vol. 1, Academic Press (1968)). Useful GAGs include hyaluronic acid, heparin, heparin sulfate, chondroitin 6-sulfate, chondroitin 4-sulfate, dermatan 15 sulfate, and keratin sulfate. Other GAGs are suitable for forming the matrix described herein, and those skilled in the art will either know or be able to ascertain other suitable GAGs using no more than routine experimentation. For a more detailed 20 description of mucopolysaccharides, see Aspinall, Polysaccharides, Pergamon Press, Oxford (1970). For example, as disclosed in U.S. Application Serial No. 529,852, chondroitin-6-sulfate can be used where endochondral bone formation is desired. Heparin 25 sulfate, on the other hand, may be used to formulate synthetic matrices for use in lung tissue repair.

Collagen can be reacted with a GAG in aqueous acidic solutions, preferably in diluted acetic acid solutions. By adding the GAG dropwise into the aqueous

collagen dispersion, coprecipitates of tangled collagen fibrils coated with GAG results. This tangled mass of fibers then can be homogenized to form a homogeneous dispersion of fine fibers and then filtered and dried.

5

Insolubility of the collagen-GAG products can be raised to the desired degree by covalently cross-linking these materials, which also serves to raise the resistance to resorption of these materials. In general, any covalent cross-linking method suitable for cross-linking collagen also is suitable for cross-linking these composite materials, although crosslinking by a dehydrothermal process is preferred.

When dry, the crosslinked particles are essentially spherical, with diameters of about 500 μm. Scanning electron miscroscopy shows pores of about 20 μm on the surface and 40 μm on the interior. The interior is made up of both fibrous and sheet-like structures, providing surfaces for cell attachment. The voids interconnect, providing access to the cells throughout the interior of the particle. The material appears to be roughly 99.5% void volume, making the material very efficient in terms of the potential cell mass that can be grown per gram of microcarrier.

Another useful synthetic matrix is one formulated from biocompatible, in vivo biodegradable synthetic polymers, such as those composed of glycolic acid, lactic acid and/or butyric acid, including copolymers

and derivatives thereof. These polymers are well described in the art and are available commercially. For example, polymers composed of polyactic acid (e.g., MW 100 kDa), 80% polylactide/20% glycoside or poly 3-hydroxybutyric acid (e.g., MW 30 kDa) all may be purchased from PolySciences, Inc. The polymer compositions generally are obtained in particulate form. In addition, one can alter the morphology of the polymer compositions, for example to increase porosity, using any of a number of particular solvent treatments known in the art. Where the morphogen is adsorbed to the matrix surface, the steps preferably are performed under conditions which avoid hydrolysis of the polymers (e.g., non-aqueous conditions such as in an ethanol-trifluoro-acetic acid solution).

The OP-3 proteins described herein can be combined and dispersed in a suitable matrix using any of the methods described below:

20

1. Ethanol Precipitation

Matrix is added to the morphogen dissolved in guanidine-HCl. Samples are vortexed and incubated at a low temperature. Samples are then further vortexed. Cold absolute ethanol is added to the mixture which is then stirred and incubated. After centrifugation (microfuge, high speed) the supernatant is discarded. The matrix is washed with cold concentrated ethanol in water and then lyophilized.

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2. Acetonitrile Trifluoroacetic Acid Lyophilization

In this procedure, a morphogenically active fragment of OP-3 in an acetonitrile trifluroacetic acid (ACN/TFA) solution is added to the carrier material. Samples are vigorously vortexed many times and then lyophilized.

3. Buffered 'Saline Lyophilization

10

A preparation of a morphogenically active fragment of OP-3 in physiological saline also may be vortexed with the matrix and lyophilized to produce morphogenically active material.

15

Tissue morphogenesis requires a morphogenically permissive environment. Clearly, in fully-functioning healthy tissue that is not composed of a permanently renewing cell population, there must exist signals to 20 prevent continued tissue growth. Thus, it is postulated that there exists a control mechanism, such as a feedback control mechanism, which regulates the control of cell growth and differentiation. In fact, it is known that both TGF-β, and MIS are capable of inhibiting cell growth when present at appropriate concentrations. In addition, using the bone model system it can be shown that osteogenic devices comprising a bone-derived carrier (matrix) that has been demineralized and guanidine-extracted to substantially remove the noncollagenous proteins does

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allow endochondral bone formation when implanted in association with an osteoinductive morphogen. If, however, the bone-derived carrier is not demineralized but rather is washed only in low salt, for example, induction of endochondral bone formation is inhibited, suggesting the presence of one or more inhibiting factors within the carrier.

III. Examples

10

Example 1. Recombinant Production of OP-3

OP-3 proteins useful in the methods and compositions of this invention may be purified from 15 natural sources or produced using standard recombinant methodology. General considerations for the recombinant production of OP3 morphogens are described below.

20 A. Identification of Novel mOP-3 Sequences

A genetic sequence encoding the morphogenic OP-3 protein was identified using a 0.3 kb EcoRI-BamH1 OP-2 fragment from a mouse OP-2 cDNA as a hybridization

25 probe, specific to the mid-pro region of OP-2 (corresponding to amino acid residues 125 to 225 of the pre-pro protein) essentially as described in USSN 667,274. The ³²P-labeled probe was prepared using the random hexanucleotide priming method, and the

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hybridizations were performed using the following conditions: 40% formamide, 5 X SSPE, 5 X Denhardt's Solution, 0.1% SDS, at 37°C overnight, and washing in 0.1 X SSPE, 0.1% SDS at 50°C. Approximately 1 X 106 5 phages from a mouse cDNA (carried in lambda zapII) library made from the teratocarcinoma cell line PCC4 (Stratagene, Inc., La Jolla, CA, cat # 936301) were This screening yielded four individual clones which were purified over three rounds of 10 screening. The plasmid DNA containing the cDNAs was obtained using the lambda zapII excision process following manufacturer's directions. Three of the four clones were shown by DNA sequencing to encode OP-3. The DNA sequence, referred to herein as mOP-3 and 15 described in Seq. ID No. 1, was identified by this procedure.

The isolated mOP-3 DNA sequence, in accordance with other known morphogens, encodes a protein comprising a 20 "pro" region (defined essentially by residues 20-260 or 20-263 of Seq. ID No. 1) and a mature region (defined essentially by residues 261-399 or 264-399 of Seq. ID No. 1), including a functional domain comprising the conserved cysteine skeleton.

25

Like OP-2, OP-3 is marked by an eighth cysteine within the seven cysteine domain (e.g., at position 338 of Seq. ID No.1). The extra cysteine likely helps stabilize the folded structure, possibly by providing inter-molecular disulfide bonding. The extra cysteine

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also allows for heterodimer formation between OP-3 and another morphogen comprising the "eighth" cysteine, like OP-2 for example, or a modified OP-1, wherein an extra cysteine has been inserted at the appropriate location. The extra cysteine also may allow tetramer formation. The extra cysteine does not inhibit synthesis or reduce the stability of the translated sequence significantly as expressed proteins comprising the extra cysteine are readily detected by SDS gel electrophoresis. A primary glycosylation site occurs just C terminal to the extra cysteine in both OP-2 and OP-3, which may provide a protective effect.

The cDNA sequences for both human and mouse OP-2 are provided in Seq. ID Nos. 7 and 9, and the genomic 15 sequence for human OP-2 is provided in Seq. ID No. 11, wherein the exons defining the coding region of these proteins are indicated. The exon boundaries also are indicated in Fig. 1, described below. The human OP-2 20 locus was isolated from a genomic library (Clontech, EMBL-3 #HL1067J) on three overlapping phage clones, using standard cloning procedures. The OP-2 coding information was spread over 27 kb and, like OP-1, contains 7 exons. A comparison of exon-intron 25 boundaries in the 7 cysteine domain showed matching locations with those of OP-1. The first OP-2 exon contains 334 bp of coding sequence (111 amino acids); including the signal peptide, and is followed by the largest intron (14.6 kb). The second exon (190 bp, 30 64 amino acids) is separated by a short intron (0.4 kb)

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from exon 3 (149 bp, 49 amino acids). It follows a large third intron of 9.5 kb. The fourth exon (195 bp, 65 amino acids) encodes the maturation site ("OP-2-Ala") and is followed by a 0.8 kb intron. 5 7 cysteine domains resides on exons 5 to 7: exon 5 (80 bp, 27 amino acids) encodes the first cysteine of mature OP-2 and is followed by intron 5 (0.5 kb in length), exon 6 (111 bp, 37 amino acids) is separated by a 2.5 kb intron from the seventh, last exon with 10 147 bp (49 amino acids) of coding sequence. above, the exon-intron boundaries are conserved between human OP-1 and OP-2, two different members of the morphogen family of proteins. By analogy, the exonintron boundaries between human and mouse OP-2, two 15 species variants of a morphogen, are anticipated to be conserved as well.

Figure 1 shows the alignment of the murine OP-2 and murine OP-3 coding regions of the cDNA. The exon

20 boundaries are indicated by bars beneath the sequence.

Both sequences have the same number of nucleotides.

The nucleotide sequence is about 80% conserved in the N-terminal and C-terminal regions. In the figure, nucleotide identity between the sequences is indicated by stippling. In addition, the central region of the sequence is highly conserved and this conserved region falls into the boundaries of exon 2 and 3. There are only three nucleotide differences in this region, indicated in the figure by diamonds.

The high degree of conservation in the nucleotide sequences indicates that OP-2 and OP-3 likely share the nucleotide sequence of exon 2 and 3. The different proteins may result from alternatively spliced

5 transcripts, or they may arise from independent genes which share part of their coding sequence. Intron 1, which lies upstream of exon 2 in OP-2 (see Seq. ID No.11) is large (14.6kb) and could include the start of the OP-3 gene and/or its first exon sequence.

10 Certainly, as has been found for other mammalian genes, one or more of the introns of these morphogens may include sequences having a transcription regulatory function.

Using the screening procedure described herein and 15 in USSN 752,764, and the labelled OP-2 fragment, or preferably a labelled OP-3 fragment, OP-3 genetic sequences from other species and other libraries may be isolated. Alternatively, or in addition, a probe to 20 the N-terminal region of the mature protein, or the 3' noncoding region flanking and immediately following the stop codon, also may be used to screen for other OP-3 species variants. These sequences vary substantially among the morphogens and represent morphogen-specific 25 sequences. Mammalian cell expression of OP-3 readily can be achieved using COS (simian kidney ATCC, CRL-1650) or CHO (Chinese hamster ovary) cells (e.g., CHO-DXBII, from Lawrence Chasin, Columbia University, NY). An exemplary protocol for mammalian cell expression is provided below. Other useful eukaryotic cell systems include the insect/baculovirus system or the mammalian complement system.

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B. Expression of Novel OP-3 Sequences

To express the OP-3 protein, the OP-3 DNA is subcloned into an insertion site of a suitable,

5 commercially available pUC-type vector (e.g., pUC-19, ATCC #37254, Rockville, MD), along with a suitable promoter/enhancer sequences and 3' termination sequences. Currently preferred promoter/enhancer sequences are the CMV-MIE promoter (human

- 10 cytomegalovirus major intermediate-early promoter, preferably the intron-free or "short" form of the promoter) and the mouse mammary tumor virus promoter (mMTV) boosted by the rous sarcoma virus LTR enhancer sequence (e.g., from Clontech, Inc., Palo Alto).
- 15 Expression also may be further enhanced using transactivating enhancer sequences. The plasmid also preferably contains a selectable marker, most preferably an amplifiable marker such as DHFR, e.g., under SV40 early promoter control (ATCC #37148).
- Transfection, cell culturing, gene amplification and protein expression conditions are standard conditions, well known in the art, such as are described, for example in Ausubel et al., ed., <u>Current Protocols in Molecular Biology</u>, John Wiley & Sons, NY (1989).
- 25 Briefly, transfected cells are cultured in medium containing 0.1-0.5% dialyzed fetal calf serum (FCS), stably transfected high expression cell lines obtained by subcloning and evaluated by standard Northern blot. Southern blots also are used to assess the state of
- 30 integrated OP-3 sequences and the extent of their copy number amplification.

Chimeric OP-3 morphogens, e.g., comprising an OP-3 active domain and, for example, part or all of a pro domain from another, different morphogen may be constructed using standard recombinant DNA technology and/or an automated DNA synthesizer to construct the desired sequence. Useful chimeras include those wherein the non-OP-3 sequence is joined to the OP-3 sequence encoding the mature OP-3 protein, and the non-OP-3 sequence encodes part or all of the sequence 10 between the signal peptide processing site and the "Arg-Xaa-Xaa-Arg" processing sequence from at least one morphogen. Alternatively, the non-OP-3 sequence may be joined to an OP-3 sequence encoding, for example, the 6 or 7 cysteine skeletons, wherein the non-OP-3 sequence includes the sequence encoding the N-terminus of the mature protein. As will be appreciated by persons skilled in the art, the non-OP-3 sequences may be composed of sequences from one or morphogens and/or may comprise novel biosynthetic sequences.

20

Mammalian expression of a biosynthetic gene construct encoding a chimeric OP1-OP3 polypeptide chain is demonstrated in the immunoblot presented in Fig. 2.

A vector carrying the construct under CMV promoter control was transfected into CHO cells (CHO-DXB11) using standard procedures and as described herein.

A chimeric gene was constructed by replacing the conserved seven cysteine domain of OP-1 with that of OP-3. The resulting chimeric gene contains the entire pre-pro-domain of human OP-1 and the region of mature

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OP-1 between the maturation site and the first cysteine of the conserved C-terminal seven cysteine domain, fused to the conserved seven cysteine domain of mouse OP-3, but with two arginine residues in place of the native lysine residues found in OP-3 at the start of the seven cysteine domain.

The gene fusion was accomplished by splicing the SacI site of OP-3 (near the first cysteine of the seven cysteine domain) with a newly created SacI site in OP-1, created at the matching residues by silent mutagenesis. The SacI site encodes the Glu-Leu dipeptide in the sequence Cys-Arg-Arg-His-Glu-Leu of OP-1 and Cys-Lys-Lys-His-Glu-Leu of OP-3, respectively.

15

The chimeric gene was placed downstream of the CMV (Cytomegalovirus) MIE "short" (intron-free) promoter and upstream of the SV40 transcriptional terminator in a pUC vector. This plasmid was cotransfected with DNA encoding the DHFR marker and viral trans-activating elements (e.g., VA1, ElA) into a CHO dhfr(-) host and subjected to Methotrexate selection and one round of amplification at 1 mM Methotrexate including subcloning. 10 μ l of "spent" culture supernatant (3 days old) was analysed by "Western blot" (immunoblot), as follows.

The 10 μ l harvested medium was briefly heated with concentrated SDS sample buffer, containing β -mercapto 30 ethanol (5%) and directly analysed by electrophoresis on a 15% SDS- polyacrylamide gel (in the buffer system

of Laemmli) along with a set of prestained molecular weight standards (Bio-rad, Richmond, CA). were transferred from the gel to Immobilon membrane by the "Western blot" procedure. The chimeric OP-1/OP-3 5 protein was detected by reaction with rabbit serum raised against a synthetic peptide representing the first 17 amino acids of mature OP-1, starting with serine-threonine-glycine-serine-. Authentic recombinant OP-1, expressed in CHO cells was included 10 for comparison. In the figure sample lanes were as follows: lane 1: OP-1; lanes 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8: chimeric OP-1/OP-3; lanes 9 and 10: prestained molecular weight standards. The apparent mobility of the recombinant proteins, at approximately 20 kDa on 15 this gel, is due to glycosylation of the OP-1 and OP-3 proteins which may also be the cause of the multiple species observed.

The expressed protein then can be purified as

20 follows. For a typical 2L preparation of transfected
mammalian cells conditioned in 0.5% FCS, for example,
the total protein is typically about 700 mg. The
amount of OP-3 in the media, estimated by Western blot,
is between about 0.1-5.0 mg. OP-3 media then is

25 diluted in a low salt, physiologically buffered 6M urea
solution, and loaded onto an S-Sepharose column, which
acts as a strong cation exchanger. OP-3 binds to the
column in low salt, and serum proteins are removed.
The column subsequently is developed with an NaCl

30 gradient, e.g., 0.1M NaCl-1.0M NaCl, in 6M urea, 20mM
HEPES, pH 7.0. Most contaminants are removed at the
start of the gradient, and OP-3 is eluted primarily at
a higher salt concentration.

The sample then is loaded onto a phenyl-Sepharose column (hydrophobic interaction chromatography). OP-3 binds phenyl-Sepharose in the presence of high concentrations of a weak chaotropic salt (e.g., lM (NH₄)₂SO₄ in a physiologically buffered 6M urea solution). Once OP-3 is bound, the column is developed with a decreasing ammonium sulfate gradient, e.g., 0.6M-0.0M (NH₄)₂SO₄ gradient in a physiologically buffered, 6M urea solution. Again, most contaminants are removed at the start of the gradient, and OP-3 elutes primarily at low or no ammonium sulfate concentrations.

The OP-3 eluted from the phenyl-Sepharose column then is dialyzed against water, and prepared for loading onto a reverse phase chromatography column (e.g., C-18 HPLC), for example, by dialyzing against 30% acetonitrile, 0.1% TFA.

An alternative chromatography protocol is to perform the S-Sepharose chromatography in the absence of 6 M urea. The bound proteins then are eluted with salt step elutions (e.g., 0.1-0.6M NaCl). Remaining OP-3 then can be eluted in the presence of 6M urea.

The 6M urea elution also may be used in place of the non-urea elution to achieve maximum recovery in one step. In addition, OP-3 may be eluted from the phenyl-Sepharose column in 38% ethanol-0.01% TFA, thereby eliminating the need to dialyze the eluent before applying it to the C-18 column. Finally, multiple C-18 columns may be used (e.g., three), to further enhance purification and concentration of the protein.

OP-3 also will bind hydroxyapatite efficiently, typically in the absence of 6 M urea and at low phosphate concentrations (less than 5 mM phosphate). Bound OP-3 can be removed from the column with an elution gradient of about .001-0.5M step elution of phosphate in a physiologically buffered solution. Additionally, urea (6M) may be added during the elution step.

Other related chromatography methods also may be useful in purifying OP-3 from eucaryotic cell culture systems. For example, heparin-Sepharose may be used in combination with the S-Sepharose column.

Alternatively, immobilized metal-ion affinity
chromatography (IMAC) (e.g., Cu²⁺ or Zn⁺) and a physiologically buffered phosphate solution may be used to advantage.

C. Soluble OP3 Complexes

20

A currently preferred form of the OP-3 morphogen useful in therapeutic formulations, having improved solubility in aqueous solutions and consisting essentially of amino acids, is a dimeric morphogenic protein comprising at least the 100 amino acid peptide sequence having the pattern of seven or more cysteine residues characteristic of the morphogen family complexed with a peptide comprising part or all of a pro region of a member of the morphogen family, or an

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allelic, species or other sequence variant thereof.

Preferably, the dimeric morphogenic protein is
complexed with two peptides. Also, the dimeric
morphogenic protein preferably is noncovalently

5 complexed with the pro region peptide or peptides. The
pro region peptides also preferably comprise at least
the N-terminal eighteen amino acids that define the
OP-3 morphogen pro region (e.g., residues 18-35 of Seq.
ID No. 1). In a most preferred embodiment, peptides

10 defining substantially the full length pro region are
used.

Other soluble forms of morphogens include dimers of the uncleaved pro forms of these proteins, as well as "hemi-dimers" wherein one subunit of the dimer is an uncleaved pro form of the protein, and the other subunit comprises the mature form of the protein, including truncated forms thereof, preferably noncovalently associated with a cleaved pro domain peptide.

As described above, useful pro domains include the full length pro regions, as well as various truncated forms hereof, particularly truncated forms cleaved at proteolytic Arg-Xaa-Xaa-Arg cleavage sites. In OP-3, possible pro sequences cleaved at Arg-Xaa-Xaa-Arg sites include sequences defined by residues 18-260 of Seq. ID No. 1 (anticipated full length form); or by residues 18-263. Accordingly, currently preferred pro sequences are those encoding the full length form of the pro region for OP-3 or another, known morphogen. Other pro

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sequences contemplated to have utility include biosynthetic pro sequences, particularly those that incorporate a sequence derived from the N-terminal portion of one or more morphogen pro sequences.

5

As will be appreciated by those having ordinary skill in the art, useful sequences encoding the pro region may be obtained from genetic sequences encoding known morphogens. Alternatively, chimeric pro regions can be constructed from the sequences of one or more known morphogens. Still another option is to create a synthetic sequence variant of one or more known pro region sequences.

In another preferred aspect, useful pro region peptides include polypeptide chains comprising an amino acid sequence encoded by a nucleic acid that hybridizes under stringent conditions with a DNA or RNA sequence encoding at least the N-terminal eighteen amino acids of the pro region sequence for OP-3 e.g., nucleotides 120-173 of Seq. ID No. 1.

In yet another preferred aspect, useful pro region peptides include polypeptide chains comprising an amino acid sequence encoded by a nucleic acid that hybridizes under stringent conditions with a DNA or RNA sequence encoding at least the N-terminal eighteen amino acids of the pro region sequence for OP1 or OP2, e.g., nucleotides 136-192 and 152-211 of Seq. ID No. 3 and 7, respectively.

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C.1. <u>Isolation of Soluble morphogen complex from</u> conditioned media or body fluid

Morphogens are expressed from mammalian cells as

5 soluble complexes. Typically, however the complex is
disassociated during purification, generally by
exposure to denaturants often added to the purification
solutions, such as detergents, alcohols, organic
solvents, chaotropic agents and compounds added to

10 reduce the pH of the solution. Provided below is a
currently preferred protocol for purifying the soluble
proteins from conditioned media (or, optionally, a body
fluid such as serum, cerebro-spinal or peritoneal
fluid), under non-denaturing conditions. The method is

15 rapid, reproducible and yields isolated soluble
morphogen complexes in substantially pure form.

Soluble OP-3 morphogen complexes can be isolated from conditioned media using a simple, three step chromatographic protocol performed in the absence of denaturants. The protocol involves running the media (or body fluid) over an affinity column, followed by ion exchange and gel filtration chromatographies. The affinity column described below is a Zn-IMAC column.

The present protocol has general applicability to the purification of a variety of morphogens, all of which are anticipated to be isolatable using only minor modifications of the protocol described below. An alternative protocol also envisioned to have utility an immunoaffinity column, created using standard procedures and, for example, using antibody specific

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for a the OP-3 pro domain (complexed, for example, to a protein A-conjugated Sepharose column.) Protocols for developing immunoaffinity columns are well described in the art, (see, for example, <u>Guide to Protein</u>

<u>Purification</u>, M. Deutscher, ed., Academic Press, San Diego, 1990, particularly sections VII and XI.)

In this experiment OP-1 was expressed in mammalian CHO (chinese hamster ovary) cells as described in the 10 art (see, for example, international application US90/05903 (WO91/05802).) The CHO cell conditioned media containing 0.5% FBS was initially purified using Immobilized Metal-Ion Affinity Chromatography (IMAC). The soluble OP-1 complex from conditioned media binds 15 very selectively to the Zn-IMAC resin and a high concentration of imidazole (50 mM imidazole, pH 8.0) is required for the effective elution of the bound complex. The Zn-IMAC step separates the soluble OP-1 from the bulk of the contaminating serum proteins that 20 elute in the flow through and 35 mM imidazole wash fractions. The Zn-IMAC purified soluble OP-1 is next applied to an S-Sepharose cation-exchange column equilibrated in 20 mM NaPO, (pH 7.0) with 50 mM NaCl. This S-Sepharose step serves to further purify and 25 concentrate the soluble OP-1 complex in preparation for the following gel filtration step. The protein was applied to a Sephacryl S-200HR column equilibrated in Using substantially the same protocol, soluble morphogens also may be isolated from one or more body 30 fluids, including serum, cerebro-spinal fluid or peritoneal fluid.

IMAC was performed using Chelating-Sepharose (Pharmacia) that had been charged with three column volumes of 0.2 M ZnSO₄. The conditioned media was titrated to pH 7.0 and applied directly to the ZN-IMAC resin equilibrated in 20 mM HEPES (pH 7.0) with 500 mM NaCl. The Zn-IMAC resin was loaded with 80 mL of starting conditioned media per mL of resin. After loading, the column was washed with equilibration buffer and most of the contaminating proteins were eluted with 35 mM imidazole (pH 7.0) in equilibration buffer. The soluble OP-1 complex then is eluted with 50 mM imidazole (pH 8.0) in 20 mM HEPES and 500 mM NaCl.

15 The 50 mM imidazole eluate containing the soluble OP-1 complex was diluted with nine volumes of 20 mM NaPO₄ (pH 7.0) and applied to an S-Sepharose (Pharmacia) column equilibrated in 20 mM NaPO, (pH 7.0) with 50 mM NaCl. The S-Sepharose resin was loaded with an equivalent of 800 mL of starting conditioned media per mL of resin. After loading the S-Sepharose column was washed with equilibration buffer and eluted with 100 mM NaCl followed by 300 mM and 500 mM NaCl in 20 mM NaPO, (pH 7.0). The 300 mM NaCl pool was further purified using gel filtration chromatography. Fifty mls of the 300 mm NaCl eluate was applied to a 5.0 X 90 cm Sephacryl S-200HR (Pharmacia) equilibrated in Tris buffered saline (TBS), 50 mM Tris, 150 mM NaCl The column was eluted at a flow rate of 5 (pH 7.4). mL/minute collecting 10 mL fractions. The apparent molecular of the soluble OP-1 was determined by comparison to protein molecular weight standards

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(alcohol dehydrogenase (ADH, 150 kDa), bovine serum albumin (BSA, 68 kDa), carbonic anhydrase (CA, 30 kDa) and cytochrome C (cyt C, 12.5 kDa). The purity of the S-200 column fractions was determined by separation on standard 15% polyacrylamide SDS gels stained with coomassie blue. The identity of the mature OP-1 and the pro-domain was determined by N-terminal sequence analysis after separation of the mature OP-1 from the pro-domain using standard reverse phase C18 HPLC.

10

The soluble OP-1 complex elutes with an apparent molecular weight of 110 kDa. This agrees well with the predicted composition of the soluble OP-1 complex with one mature OP-1 dimer (35-36 kDa) associated with two pro-domains (39 kDa each). Purity of the final complex can be verified by running the appropriate fraction in a reduced 15% polyacrylamide gel.

The complex components can be verified by running
the complex-containing fraction from the S-200 or S200HR columns over a reverse phase C18 HPLC column and
eluting in an acetonitrile gradient (in 0.1% TFA),
using standard procedures. The complex is dissociated
by this step, and the pro domain and mature species
elute as separate species. These separate species then
can be subjected to N-terminal sequencing using
standard procedures (see, for example, <u>Guide to</u>
<u>Protein Purification</u>, M. Deutscher, ed., Academic
Press, San Diego, 1990, particularly pp. 602-613), and
the identity of the isolated 36kD, 39kDa proteins
confirmed as mature morphogen and isolated, cleaved pro
domain, respectively. N-terminal sequencing of the

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isolated pro domain from mammalian cell produced OP-1 revealed 2 forms of the pro region, the intact form (beginning at residue 30 of Seq. ID No. 16) and a truncated form, (beginning at residue 48 of Seq. ID No. 5 16.) N-terminal sequencing of the polypeptide subunit of the isolated mature species reveals a range of N-termini for the mature sequence, beginning at residues 293, 300, 313, 315, 316, and 318, of Seq. ID No. 16, all of which are active as demonstrated by the standard bone induction assay.

C.2. In Vitro Soluble Morphogen Complex Formation

10

As an alternative to purifying soluble complexes 15 from culture media or a body fluid, soluble complexes may be formulated from purified pro domains and mature dimeric species. Successful complex formation apparently requires association of the components under denaturing conditions sufficient to relax the folded 20 structure of these molecules, without affecting disulfide bonds. Preferably, the denaturing conditions mimic the environment of an intracellular vesicle sufficiently such that the cleaved pro domain has an opportunity to associate with the mature dimeric 25 species under relaxed folding conditions. concentration of denaturant in the solution then is decreased in a controlled, preferably step-wise manner, so as to allow proper refolding of the dimer and pro regions while maintaining the association of the pro 30 domain with the dimer. Useful denaturants include 4-6M urea or guanidine hydrochloride (GuHCl), in buffered solutions of pH 4-10, preferably pH 6-8. The soluble complex then is formed by controlled dialysis or dilution into a solution having a final denaturant

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concentration of less than 0.1-2M urea or GuHCl, preferably 1-2 M urea of GuHCl, which then preferably can be diluted into a physiological buffer. Protein purification/renaturing procedures and considerations are well described in the art, and details for developing a suitable renaturing protocol readily can be determined by one having ordinary skill in the art. One useful text one the subject is <u>Guide to Protein Purification</u>, M. Deutscher, ed., Academic Press, San Diego, 1990, particularly section V. Complex formation also may be aided by addition of one or more chaperone proteins.

C3. <u>Stability of Soluble Morphogen Complexes</u>

15

The stability of the highly purified soluble morphogen complex in a physiological buffer, e.g., tris-buffered saline (TBS) and phosphate-buffered saline (PBS), can be enhanced by any of a number of 20 means. Currently preferred is by means of a pro region that comprises at least the first 18 amino acids of the pro sequence (e.g., residues 18-35 of Seg. ID NO. 1 for OP-3), and preferably is the full length pro region. Residues 18-35 show sequence homology to the N-terminal 25 portion of other morphogens and are believed to have particular utility in enhancing complex stability for all morphogens. Other useful means for enhancing the stability of soluble morphogen complexes include three classes of additives. These additives include basic 30 amino acids (e.g., L-arginine, lysine and betaine); nonionic detergents (e.g., Tween 80 or NonIdet P-120); and carrier proteins (e.g., serum albumin and casein).

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Useful concentrations of these additives include 1-100 mM, preferably 10-70 mM, including 50 mM, basic amino acid;, 0.01-1.0%, preferably 0.05-0.2%, including 0.1% (v/v) nonionic detergent;, and 0.01-1.0%, preferably 0.05-0.2%, including 0.1% (w/v) carrier protein.

Example 2. Mitogenic Effect of OP-3

10

2.1 <u>Mitogenic Effect of Morphogen on Rat and</u> Human Osteoblasts

The following example can be used to demonstrate the ability of OP-3 to induce proliferation of osteoblasts in vitro using the following assay. 15 this and all examples involving osteoblast cultures, rat osteoblast-enriched primary cultures preferably are used. Although these cultures are heterogeneous in that the individual cells are at different stages of differentiation, the culture is believed to more 20 accurately reflect the metabolism and function of osteoblasts in vivo than osteoblast cultures obtained from established cell lines. Unless otherwise indicated, all chemicals referenced are standard, commercially available reagents, readily available from 25 a number of sources, including Sigma Chemical, Co., St. Louis; Calbiochem, Corp., San Diego and Aldrich Chemical Co., Milwaukee.

Rat osteoblast-enriched primary cultures are
30 prepared by sequential collagenase digestion of newborn
suture-free rat calvaria (e.g., from 1-2 day-old
animals, Long-Evans strain, Charles River Laboratories,
Wilmington, MA), following standard procedures, such as
are described, for example, in Wong et al., (1975) PNAS

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72:3167-3171. Rat osteoblast single cell suspensions then are plated onto a multi-well plate (e.g., a 24 well plate) at a concentration of 50,000 osteoblasts per well in alpha MEM (modified Eagle's medium, Gibco, Inc., Long Island) containing 10% FBS (fetal bovine serum), L-glutamine and penicillin/streptomycin. The cells are incubated for 24 hours at 37°C, at which time the growth medium is replaced with alpha MEM containing 1% FBS and the cells incubated for an additional 24 hours so that cells are in serum-deprived growth medium at the time of the experiment.

The cultured cells are divided into three groups: (1) wells which receive, for example, 0.1, 1.0, 10.0, 15 40 and 80.0 ng of OP-3; (2) wells which receive 0.1, 1.0, 10.0 and 40 ng of a local-acting growth factor (e.g., $TGF-\beta$); and (3) the control group, which receive no growth factors. The cells then are incubated for an additional 18 hours after which the wells are pulsed 20 with $2\mu\text{Ci/well}$ of $^3\text{H-thymidine}$ and incubated for six more hours. The excess label then is washed off with a cold solution of 0.15 M NaCl and then 250 μ l of 10% tricholoracetic acid is added to each well and the wells incubated at room temperature for 30 minutes. 25 The cells then are washed three times with cold distilled water, and lysed by the addition of 250 μ l of 1% sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS) for a period of 30 minutes at 37°C. The resulting cell lysates are harvested using standard means well known in the art, 30 and the incorporation of ³H-thymidine into cellular DNA determined by liquid scintillation as an indication of mitogenic activity of the cells. In the experiment, OP-3 is anticipated to stimulate ³H-thymidine incorporation into DNA, and thus promote osteoblast

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cell proliferation. By contrast, the effect of TGF- β is transient and biphasic. At high concentrations, TGF- β has no significant effect on osteoblast cell proliferation.

5

The <u>in vitro</u> effect of OP-3 on osteoblast proliferation also may be evaluated using human primary osteoblasts (obtained from bone tissue of a normal adult patient and prepared as described above) and on 10 human osteosarcoma-derived cell lines. In all cases OP-3 is anticipated to induce cell proliferation in accordance with the morphogen's ability to induce endochondral bone formation (see Example 7, below).

15 2.2 Progenitor Cell Stimulation

The following example demonstrates the ability of OP-3 to stimulate the proliferation of mesenchymal progenitor cells. Useful naive stem cells include pluripotential stem cells, which may be isolated from bone marrow or umbilical cord blood using conventional methodologies, (see, for example, Faradji et al., (1988) Vox Sang., 55 (3):133-138 or Broxmeyer et al., (1989) PNAS 86:3828-3832), as well as naive stem cells obtained from blood. Alternatively, embryonic cells (e.g., from a cultured mesodermal cell line) may be useful.

Another method for obtaining progenitor cells and for determining the ability of OP-3 fragments to stimulate cell proliferation is to capture progenitor cells from an <u>in vivo</u> source. For example, a biocompatible matrix material able to allow the influx of migratory progenitor cells may be implanted at an <u>in</u>

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vivo site long enough to allow the influx of migratory progenitor cells. For example, a bone-derived, guanidine-extracted matrix, formulated as disclosed for example in Sampath et al. ((1983) PNAS 80:6591-6595), or U.S. Patent No. 4,975,526, may be implanted into a rat at a subcutaneous site, essentially following the method of Sampath et al. After three days the implant is removed, and the progenitor cells associated with the matrix dispersed and cultured.

10

Progenitor cells, however obtained, then are incubated in vitro with OP-3 under standard cell culture conditions well described in the art and described hereinabove. In the absence of external stimuli, the progenitor cells do not, or only minimally, proliferate on their own in culture. However, progenitor cells cultured in the presence of a morphogenically active fragment of OP-3 are anticipated to proliferate. Cell growth can be determined visually or spectrophotometrically using standard methods well known in the art.

Example 3. Morphogen-Induced Cell Differentiation

25 3.1 Embryonic Mesenchyme Differentiation

Morphogenically active fragments of OP-3 can be utilized to induce cell differentiation. The ability of OP-3 to induce cell differentiation can be demonstrated by culturing early mesenchymal cells in the presence of OP-3 and then studying the histology of

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the cultured cells by staining with toluidine blue using standard cell culturing and cell staining methodologies well described in the art. For example, it is known that rat mesenchymal cells destined to 5 become mandibular bone, when separated from the overlying epithelial cells at stage 11 and cultured in vitro under standard tissue culture conditions, e.g., in a chemically defined, serum-free medium, containing for example, 67% DMEM (Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium), 22% F-12 medium, 10mM Hepes pH 7, 2mM 10 glutamine, 50 μ g/ml transferrin, 25 μ g/ml insulin, trace elements, 2mg/ml bovine serum albumin coupled to oleic acid, with HAT (0.1 mM hypoxanthine, 10μ M aminopterin, 12 μ M thymidine, will not continue to 15 differentiate. However, if these same cells are left in contact with the overlying endoderm for an additional day, at which time they become stage 12 cells, they will continue to differentiate on their own in vitro to form chondrocytes. Further 20 differentiation into osteoblasts and, ultimately, mandibular bone, requires an appropriate local environment, e.g., a vascularized environment.

Stage 11 mesenchymal cells, cultured in vitro in

25 the presence of OP-3, e.g., 10-100 ng/ml, are
anticipated to continue to differentiate in vitro to
form chondrocytes just as they continue to
differentiate in vitro if they are cultured with the
cell products harvested from the overlying endodermal

30 cells. This experiment may be performed with different
mesenchymal cells to demonstrate the cell
differentiation capability of OP-3 in different
tissues.

As another example of morphogen-induced cell differentiation, the ability of OP-3 to induce osteoblast differentiation may be demonstrated in vitro using primary osteoblast cultures, or osteoblast-like cells lines, and assaying for a variety of bone cell markers that are specific markers for the differentiated osteoblast phenotype, e.g., alkaline phosphatase activity, parathyroid hormone-mediated cyclic AMP (cAMP) production, osteocalcin synthesis, and enhanced mineralization rates.

3.2 <u>Alkaline Phosphatase Induction of</u> Osteoblasts by OP-3

15 The cultured cells in serum-free medium are incubated with, a range of OP-3 concentrations, for example, 0.1, 1.0, 10.0, 40.0 or 80.0 ng OP-3/ml medium; or with a similar range of TGF-β concentrations. 72 hours after the incubation period 20 the cell layer is extracted with 0.5 ml of 1% Triton X-100. The resultant cell extract then, is centrifuged, and 100 μ l of the extract is added to 90 μ l of paranitrosophenylphospate (PNPP)/glycerine mixture and incubated for 30 minutes in a 37°C water 25 bath and the reaction stopped with 100 μ l NaOH. samples then are run through a plate reader (e.g., Dynatech MR700 plate reader, and absorbance measured at 400 nm, using p-nitrophenol as a standard) to determine the presence and amount of alkaline phosphate activity. 30 Protein concentrations are determined by the Biorad method. Alkaline phosphatase activity is calculated in units/µg protein, where 1 unit=1 nmol p-nitrophenol liberated/30 minutes at 37°C.

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OP-3 alone stimulates the production of alkaline phosphatase in osteoblasts, and thus promotes the growth and expression of the osteoblast differentiated phenotype.

5

The long term effect of OP-3 morphogen on the production of alkaline phosphatase by rat osteoblasts also may be demonstrated as follows.

10 Rat osteoblasts are prepared and cultured in multiwell plates as described above. In this example six sets of 24 well plates are plated with 50,000 rat osteoblasts per well. The wells in each plate, prepared as described above, then are divided into 15 three groups: (1) those which receive, for example, 1 ng of OP-3 per ml of medium; (2) those which receive 40 ng of OP-3 per ml of medium; and (3) those which received 80 ng of OP-3 per ml of medium. Each plate then is incubated for different lengths of time: 20 0 hours (control time), 24 hours, 48 hours, 96 hours, 120 hours and 144 hours. After each incubation period, the cell layer is extracted with 0.5 ml of 1% Triton X-The resultant cell extract is centrifuged, and alkaline phosphatase activity determined as for 25 Example 3.1, using paranitroso-phenylphosphate (PNPP). OP-3 stimulates the production of alkaline phosphatase in osteoblasts in dose-dependent manner so that increasing doses of OP-3 further increase the level of alkaline phosphatase production, and moreover, the 30 OP-3-stimulated elevated levels of alkaline phosphatase

in the treated osteoblasts is anticipated to last for

an extended period of time.

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3.3 OP-3 Protein Induction of PTH-Mediated cAMP.

The effect of a OP-3 on parathyroid hormonemediated cAMP production in rat osteoblasts <u>in vitro</u> 5 may be demonstrated as follows.

Rat osteoblasts are prepared and cultured in a multiwell plate as described above. The cultured cells then are divided into three groups: (1) wells which 10 receive, for example, 1.0, 10.0 and 40.0 ng OP-3/ml medium); (2) wells which receive for example, $TGF-\beta$, at similar concentration ranges; and (3) a control group which receives no growth factors. The plate is then incubated for another 72 hours. At the end of the 15 72 hours the cells are treated with medium containing 0.5% bovine serum albumin (BSA) and 1mM 3-isobutyl-1methylxanthine for 20 minutes followed by the addition into half of the wells of human recombinant parathyroid hormone (hPTH, Sigma, St. Louis) at a concentration of 20 200 ng/ml for 10 minutes. The cell layer then is extracted from each well with 0.5 ml of 1% Triton X-100. The cAMP levels then are determined using a radioimmunoassay kit (e.g., Amersham, Arlington Heights, Illinois). OP-3 alone stimulates an increase 25 in the PTH-mediated cAMP response, and thus promotes the growth and expression of the osteoblast differentiated phenotype.

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3.4 <u>OP-3 Protein Induction of Osteocalcin</u> Production

Osteocalcin is a bone-specific protein synthesized

5 by osteoblasts which plays an integral role in the rate
of bone mineralization <u>in vivo</u>. Circulating levels of
osteocalcin in serum are used as a marker for
osteoblast activity and bone formation <u>in vivo</u>.
Induction of osteocalcin synthesis in osteoblast
10 enriched cultures can be used to demonstrate
OP-3 morphogenic efficacy <u>in vitro</u>.

Rat osteoblasts are prepared and cultured in a multi-well plate as above. In this experiment the 15 medium is supplemented with 10%FBS, and on day 2, cells are fed with fresh medium supplemented with fresh 10 mM β-glycerophosphate (Sigma, Inc.). Beginning on day 5 and twice weekly thereafter, cells are fed with a complete mineralization medium containing all of the 20 above components plus fresh L(+)-ascorbate, at a final concentration of 50µg/ml medium. OP-3 then is added to the wells directly, e.g., in 50% acetonitrile (or 50% ethanol) containing 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid (TFA), at no more than 5μ l morphogen/ml medium. Control wells 25 receive solvent vehicle only. The cells then are re-fed and the conditioned medium sample diluted 1:1 in standard radioimmunoassay buffer containing standard protease inhibitors and stored at -20° C until assayed for osteocalcin. Osteocalcin synthesis is measured by 30 standard radioimmunoassay using a commercially available osteocalcin-specific antibody.

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Mineralization is determined on long term cultures (13 day) using a modified von Kossa staining technique on fixed cell layers: cells are fixed in fresh 4% paraformaldehyde at 23° C for 10 min, following rinsing 5 cold 0.9% NaCl. Fixed cells then are stained for endogenous alkaline phosphatase at pH 9.5 for 10 min, using a commercially available kit (Sigma, Inc.) Purple stained cells then are dehydrated with methanol and air dried. after 30 min incubation in 3% AgNO₃ in 10 the dark, H₂O-rinsed samples are exposed for 30 sec to 254 nm UV light to develop the black silver-stained phosphate nodules. Individual mineralized foci (at least 20 µm in size) are counted under a dissecting microscope and expressed as nodules/culture.

15

OP-3 stimulates osteocalcin synthesis in osteoblast cultures. The increased osteocalcin synthesis in response to OP-3 is dose dependent and shows a significant increase over the basal level after 13 days of incubation. The enhanced osteocalcin synthesis also can be confirmed by detecting the elevated osteocalcin mRNA message (20-fold increase) using a rat osteocalcin-specific probe. In addition, the increase in osteoclacin synthesis correlates with increased mineralization in long term osteoblast cultures as determined by the appearance of mineral nodules. OP-3 increases the initial mineralization rate significantly compared to untreated cultures.

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3.5 Morphogen-Induced CAM Expression

The morphogens described herein induce CAM
expression, particularly N-CAM expression, as part of
their induction of morphogenesis (see copending
USSN 922,813). CAMs are morphoregulatory molecules
identified in all tissues as an essential step in
tissue development. N-CAMs, which comprise at least 3
isoforms (N-CAM-180, N-CAM-140 and N-CAM-120, where
"180", "140" and "120" indicate the apparent molecular
weights of the isoforms as measured by SDS
polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis) are expressed at
least transiently in developing tissues, and
permanently in nerve tissue. Both the N-CAM-180 and NCAM-140 isoforms are expressed in both developing and
adult tissue. The N-CAM-120 isoform is found only in
adult tissue. Another neural CAM is L1.

The ability of OP-3 to stimulate CAM expression can
20 be demonstrated using the following protocol, using
NG108-15 cells. NG108-15 is a transformed hybrid cell
line (neuroblastoma x glioma, America Type Tissue
Culture (ATCC), Rockville, MD), exhibiting a morphology
characteristic of transformed embryonic neurons. As
25 described in Example 4, below, untreated NG108-15 cells
exhibit a fibroblastic, or minimally differentiated,
morphology and express only the 180 and 140 isoforms of
N-CAM normally associated with a developing cell.
Following morphogen treatment these cells exhibit a
30 morphology characteristic of adult neurons and express
enhanced levels of all three N-CAM isoforms.

In this example, NG108-15 cells are cultured for 4 days in the presence of increasing concentrations of OP-3 using standard culturing procedures, and standard Western blots performed on whole cell extracts. N-CAM 5 isoforms are detected with an antibody which crossreacts with all three isoforms, mAb H28.123, obtained from Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, the different isoforms being distinguishable by their different mobilities on an electrophoresis gel. 10 Control NG108-15 cells (untreated) express both the 140 kDa and the 180 kDa isoforms, but not the 120 kDa, as determined by Western blot analyses using up to 100 μ g of protein. Treatment of NG108-15 cells with OP-3 results in a dose-dependent increase in the expression 15 of the 180 kDa and 140 kDa isoforms, as well as the induction of the 120 kDa isoform induced. In addition, OP-3-induced CAM expression correlates with cell aggregation, as determined by histology.

20 Example 4. OP-3 Protein-Induced Redifferentiation of Transformed Phenotype

The OP-3 morphogens described herein also can induce redifferentiation of transformed cells to a 25 morphology characteristic of untransformed cells. The examples provided below detail morphogen-induced redifferentiation of a transformed human cell line of neuronal origin (NG108-15); as well as mouse neuroblastoma cells (N1E-115), and human embryo carcinoma cells, to a morphology characteristic of untransformed cells.

As described above, NG108-15 is a transformed hybrid cell line produced by fusing neuroblastoma x glioma cells (obtained from ATTC, Rockville, MD), and exhibiting a morphology characteristic of transformed 5 embryonic neurons, e.g., having a fibroblastic morphology. Specifically, the cells have polygonal cell bodies, short, spike-like processes and make few contacts with neighboring cells (see copending USSN 922,813). Incubation of NG108-15 cells, cultured in a chemically defined, serum-free medium, with 0.1 to 300 ng/ml of morphogen (e.g; OP-3) for four hours is anticipated to induce an orderly, dose-dependent change in cell morphology.

15 In the example, NG108-15 cells are subcultured on poly-L-lysine coated 6 well plates. Each well contains 40-50,000 cells in 2.5 ml of chemically defined medium. On the third day, 2.5 μ l of morphogen (e.g., OP-3) in 60% ethanol containing 0.025% trifluoroacetic is added to each well. Morphogenic OP-3 of varying concentrations are tested (typically, concentration ranges of 0-300 ng/ml are tested). The media is changed daily with new aliquots of morphogen. anticipated to induce a dose-dependent 25 redifferentiation of the transformed cells, including a rounding of the soma, an increase in phase brightness, extension of the short neurite processes, and other significant changes in the cellular ultrastructure. After several days treated cells should begin to form 30 epithelioid sheets that then become highly packed,

multi-layered aggregates, as determined visually by

microscopic examination.

Moreover, morphogen-induced redifferentiation occurs without any associated changes in DNA synthesis, cell division, or cell viability, making it unlikely that the morphologic changes are secondary to cell differentiation or a toxic effect of the morphogen. In addition, the morphogen-induced redifferentiation does not inhibit cell division, as determined by ³H-thymidine uptake, unlike other molecules which have been shown to stimulate differentiation of transformed cells, such as butyrate, DMSO, retanoic acid or Forskolin in analogous experiments. Thus, OP-3 maintains cell stability and viability after inducing redifferentiation.

The OP-3 morphogens described herein accordingly provide useful therapeutic agents for the treatment of neoplasias and neoplastic lesions of the nervous system, particularly in the treatment of neuroblastomas, including retinoblastomas, and gliomas.

20

As yet another, related example, the ability of OP-3 to induce the "redifferentiation" of transformed human cells may be demonstrated using the following assay. Specifically, the effect of OP-3 on human EC cells (embryo carcinoma cells, e.g., NTERA-Z CL.D1, ATCC, Rockville, MD) may be determined. In the absence of an external stimulant, these cells can be maintained as undifferentiated stem cells, and can be induced to grow in serum free media (SFM). In the absence of treatment with a morphogen, the cells proliferate

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rampantly and are anchorage-independent. In the presence of morphogen, EC cells grow as flattened cells, becoming anchorage dependent and forming aggregates. In addition, growth rate is reduced approximately 10 fold. Ultimately, the cells are induced to differentiate. In the example, varying concentrations of OP-3 (e.g., 0-300 ng/ml) are added daily to cultured cells (e.g., 40-50,000 cells in 2.5 ml chemically defined medium), and the effects of treatment determined by visual examination. OP-3 is anticipated to stimulate redifferentiation of these cells to a morphology characteristic of untransformed embryo cells.

15 Example 5. Maintenance of Phenotype

Morphogenically active fragments of OP-3 also may be used to maintain a cell's differentiated phenotype. This application is particularly useful for inducing the continued expression of phenotype in senescent or quiescent cells.

5.1 In Vitro Model for Phenotypic Maintenance

The phenotypic maintenance capability of morphogens is determined readily. A number of differentiated cells become senescent or quiescent after multiple passages in vitro under standard tissue culture conditions well described in the art (e.g., Culture of Animal Cells: A Manual of Basic Techniques, C.R.

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Freshney, ed., Wiley, 1987). However, if these cells are cultivated in vitro in association with a morphogen such as OP-3, cells are stimulated to maintain expression of their phenotype through multiple 5 passages. For example, the alkaline phosphatase activity of cultured osteoblasts, such as cultured osteosarcoma cells and calvaria cells, is significantly reduced after multiple passages in vitro. However, if the cells are cultivated in the presence of OP-3, 10 alkaline phosphatase activity should be maintained over extended periods of time. Similarly, phenotypic expression of myocytes also is maintained in the presence of a morphogen. In the experiment, osteoblasts are cultured as described in Example 2. 15 The cells are divided into groups, incubated with varying concentrations of OP-3 (e.g., 0-300 ng/ml) and passaged multiple times (e.g., 3-5 times) using standard methodology. Passaged cells then are tested for alkaline phosphatase activity, as described in 20 Example 3 as an indication of differentiated cell metabolic function. Osteoblasts cultured in the absence of OP-3 should have reduced alkaline phosphatase activity, as compared to OP-3-treated cells.

25

5.2 In Vivo Model for Phenotypic Maintenance

Phenotypic maintenance capability also may be demonstrated <u>in vivo</u>, using a rat model for osteoporosis, as disclosed in international application PCT/US92/07432 (WO93/05751). As described therein,

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Long Evans female rats (Charles River Laboratories, Wilmington, MA) are Sham-operated (control animals) or ovariectomized using standard surgical techniques, to produce an osteoporotic condition resulting from 5 decreased estrogen production. Shortly following surgery, e.g., 200 days after ovariectomy, rats are systemically provided with phosphate buffered saline (PBS) or morphogen, (e.g., OP-3, 1-100 μ g) for 21 days (e.g., by daily tail vein injection.) The rats then 10 are sacrificed and serum alkaline phosphatase levels, serum calcium levels, and serum osteocalcin levels are determined, using standard methodologies as described therein and above. Elevated levels of osteocalcin and alkaline phosphatase should be observed in the rats 15 treated with an effective amount of OP-3. Moreover, histomorphometric analysis on the tibial diasypheal bone is anticipated to show improved bone mass in OP-3-treated animals as compared with untreated, ovariectomized rats. In fact, the bone mass of OP-3-20 animals is anticipated to be comparable to (e.g., approaches) that of the sham-operated (e.g., nonovarectomized) rats.

Example 6. Proliferation of Progenitor Cell Populations

25

Progenitor cells may be stimulated to proliferate

in vivo or ex vivo. The cells may be stimulated in

vivo by injecting or otherwise providing a sterile

preparation containing the morphogenically active

30 fragment of OP-3 into the individual. For example, the

hemopoietic pluripotential stem cell population of an individual may be stimulated to proliferate by injecting or otherwise providing an appropriate concentration of OP-3 to the individual's bone marrow.

5

Progenitor cells may be stimulated ex vivo by contacting progenitor cells of the population to be enhanced with a morphogenically active fragment of OP-3 under sterile conditions at a concentration and for a 10 time sufficient to stimulate proliferation of the cells. Suitable concentrations and stimulation times may be determined empirically, essentially following the procedure described in Example 2, above. A morphogen concentration of between about 0.1-100 ng/ml 15 and a stimulation period of from about 10 minutes to about 72 hours, or, more generally, about 24 hours, typically should be sufficient to stimulate a cell population of about 10⁴ to 10⁶ cells. The stimulated cells then are provided to the individual as, for 20 example, by injecting the cells to an appropriate in vivo locus. Suitable biocompatible progenitor cells may be obtained by any of the methods known in the art or described hereinabove.

25 Example 7. Regeneration of Damaged or Diseased Tissue

OP-3 may be used to repair diseased or damaged mammalian tissue. The tissue to be repaired preferably is assessed first, and excess necrotic or interfering scar tissue removed as needed, e.g., by ablation or by surgical, chemical, or other methods known in the medical arts.

OP-3 then may be provided directly to the tissue locus as part of a sterile, biocompatible composition, either by surgical implantation or injection. The morphogen also may be provided systemically, as by oral 5 or parenteral administration. Alternatively, a sterile, biocompatible composition containing progenitor cells stimulated by a morphogenically active fragment of OP-3 may be provided to the tissue locus. The existing tissue at the locus, whether diseased or 10 damaged, provides the appropriate matrix to allow the proliferation and tissue-specific differentiation of progenitor cells. In addition, a damaged or diseased tissue locus, particularly one that has been further assaulted by surgical means, provides a morphogenically 15 permissive environment. Systemic provision of OP-3 should be sufficient for certain applications (e.g., in the treatment of osteoporosis and other disorders of the bone remodeling cycle, as an example).

In some circumstances, particularly where tissue damage is extensive, the tissue may not be capable of providing a sufficient matrix for cell influx and proliferation. In these instances, it may be necessary to provide OP-3 or progenitor cells stimulated by OP-3 to the tissue locus in association with a suitable, biocompatible, formulated matrix, prepared by any of the means described below. The matrix preferably is in vivo biodegradable. The matrix also may be tissue-specific and/or may comprise porous particles having dimensions within the range of 70-850μm, most preferably 150-420μm.

OP-3 also may be used to prevent or substantially inhibit immune/inflammatory response-mediated tissue damage and scar tissue formation following an injury. OP-3 is provided to a newly injured tissue locus, to induce tissue morphogenesis at the locus, preventing the aggregation of migrating fibroblasts into non-differentiated connective tissue. OP-3 preferably is provided as a sterile pharmaceutical preparation injected into the tissue locus within five hours of the injury. Where an immune/inflammatory response is unavoidably or deliberately induced, as part of, for example, a surgical or other aggressive clinical therapy, OP-3 preferably is provided prophylactically to the patient, prior to, or concomitant with, the

Below are several examples, describing protocols for demonstrating OP-3-induced tissue morphogenesis in bone, liver, nerve, dentin, cementum and periodontal tissue.

7.1 OP-3-Induced Bone Morphogenesis

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A particularly useful mammalian tissue model system

25 for demonstrating and evaluating the morphogenic
activity of a protein is the endochondral bone tissue
morphogenesis model known in the art and described, for
example, in U.S. Pat. No. 4,968,590. The ability to
induce endochondral bone formation includes the ability

30 to induce the proliferation of progenitor cells into

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chondroblasts and osteoblasts, the ability to induce cartilage matrix formation, cartilage calcification, and bone remodeling, and the ability to induce formation of an appropriate vascular supply and hematopoeitic bone marrow differentiation.

The local environment in which the morphogenic material is placed is important for tissue morphogenesis. As used herein, "local environment" is understood to include the tissue structural matrix and the environment surrounding the tissue. For example, in addition to needing an appropriate anchoring substratum for their proliferation, the cells stimulated by morphogens need signals to direct the tissue-specificity of their differentiation. These signals vary for the different tissues and may include cell surface markers. In addition, vascularization of new tissue requires a local environment which supports vascularization.

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The following sets forth various procedures for evaluating the <u>in vivo</u> morphogenic utility of OP-3 and OP-3-containing compositions. The compositions may be injected or surgically implanted in a mammal, following any of a number of procedures well known in the art. For example, surgical implant bioassays may be performed essentially following the procedure of Sampath et al. (1983) <u>PNAS</u> 80:6591-6595 and U.S. Pat No. 4,968,590.

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Histological sectioning and staining is preferred to determine the extent of morphogenesis in vivo, particularly in tissue repair procedures. Excised implants are fixed in Bouins Solution, embedded in paraffin, and cut into 6-8 µm sections. Staining with toluidine blue or hemotoxylin/eosin demonstrates clearly the ultimate development of the new tissue. Twelve day implants are usually sufficient to determine whether the implants contain newly induced tissue.

10

Successful implants exhibit a controlled progression through the stages of induced tissue development allowing one to identify and follow the tissue-specific events that occur. For example, in endochondral bone formation the stages include:

- (1) leukocytes on day one; (2) mesenchymal cell migration and proliferation on days two and three;
- (3) chondrocyte appearance on days five and six;
- (4) cartilage matrix formation on day seven;
- (5) cartilage calcification on day eight; (6) vascular invasion, appearance of osteoblasts, and formation of new bone on days nine and ten; (7) appearance of osteoclastic cells, and the commencement of bone remodeling and dissolution of the implanted matrix on days twelve to eighteen; and (8) hematopoietic bone marrow differentiation in the resulting ossicles on day twenty-one.

In addition to histological evaluation, biological
markers may be used as markers for tissue
morphogenesis. Useful markers include tissue-specific

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enzymes whose activities may be assayed (e.g., spectrophotometrically) after homogenization of the implant. These assays may be useful for quantitation and for rapidly obtaining an estimate of tissue formation after the implants are removed from the animal. For example, alkaline phosphatase activity may be used as a marker for osteogenesis.

Incorporation of systemically provided OP-3 may be 10 followed using tagged fragments (e.g., radioactively labelled) and determining their localization in the new tissue, and/or by monitoring their disappearance from the circulatory system using a standard labeling protocol and pulse-chase procedure. OP-3 also may be 15 provided with a tissue-specific molecular tag, whose uptake may be monitored and correlated with the concentration of OP-3 provided. As an example, ovary removal in female rats results in reduced bone alkaline phosphatase activity, and renders the rats predisposed 20 to osteoporosis (as described in Example 5). If the female rats now are provided with OP-3, a reduction in the systemic concentration of calcium should be seen, which correlates with the presence of the provided OP-3 and which is anticipated to correspond with increased 25 alkaline phosphatase activity.

7.2 Morphogen-Induced Liver Regeneration

As another example, a method for inducing
30 morphogenesis of substantially injured liver tissue
following a partial hepatectomy utilizing OP-3 is

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presented. Variations on this general protocol may be used to test morphogen activity of OP-3 in other different tissues. The general method involves excising an essentially nonregenerating portion of a tissue and providing OP-3, preferably as a soluble pharmaceutical preparation to the excised tissue locus, closing the wound, and examining the site at a future date. Like bone, liver has a potential to regenerate upon injury during post-fetal life.

10

OP-3, e.g., 1 mg/ml, in a biocompatible solution, for example, (e.g., a purified recombinant mature form of OP-3, is solubilized in 50% ethanol, or compatible solvent, containing 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid, or compatible acid. Alternatively, the mature protein may be solubilized by association with a pro domain. The injectable OP-3 solution is prepared, e.g., by diluting one volume of OP-3 solvent-acid stock solution with 9 volumes of 0.2% rat serum albumin in sterile PBS (phosphate-buffered saline).

In the experiment, growing rats or aged rats (e.g., Long Evans, Charles River Laboratories, Wilmington) are anesthetized by using ketamine. Two of the liver lobes (left and right) are cut out (approximately 1/3 of the lobe) and the OP-3 is injected locally at multiple sites along the cut ends. The amount of OP-3 injected may be, e.g., 100 µg in 1000 µl of PBS/RSA (phosphate buffered saline/rat serum albumin) injection buffer. Placebo samples are injection buffer only. In experimental essays, five rats in each group preferably are used. The wound is closed and the rats are allowed to eat normal food and drink tap water.

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After 12 days, the rats are sacrificed and liver regeneration is observed visually, to evaluate the effects of the OP-3 on liver regeneration most effectively. The OP-3 fragment-injected group is anticipated to show, e.g., complete liver tissue regeneration with no sign remaining of any cut in the liver. By contrast, the control group into which only PBS is injected, show only minimal regeneration with the incision remaining in the sample. Previous experiments with other morphogens (e.g., OP-1) show these morphogens alone induce liver tissue regeneration.

7.3 <u>Morphogen-Induced Dentin, Cementum and</u> Periodontal Ligament Regeneration

As still another example, the ability of OP-3 to induce dentinogenesis also may be demonstrated. To date, the unpredictable response of dental pulp tissue to injury is a basic clinical problem in dentistry. Cynomolgus monkeys are chosen as primate models as monkeys are presumed to be more indicative of human dental biology than models based on lower non-primate mammals.

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Using standard dental surgical procedures, small areas (e.g., 2mm) of dental pulps are surgically exposed by removing the enamel and dentin immediately above the pulp (by drilling) of sample teeth,

30 performing a partial amputation of the coronal pulp tissue, inducing hemostasis, application of the pulp treatment, and sealing and filling the cavity by standard procedures.

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Pulp treatments used may include: a
morphogenically active fragment of OP-3 dispersed in a
carrier matrix; carrier matrix alone, and no treatment.
Twelve teeth per animal (four for each treatment) are
prepared, and two animals are used. At four weeks,
teeth are extracted and processed histologically for
analysis of dentin formation, and/or ground to analyze
dentin mineralization. The effect of OP-3 on
osteodentin reparation may be observed visually by
comparing control samples treatment (PBS) with OP-3.
OP-3 plus a carrier matrix induces formation of
reparative or osteodentin bridges on surgically exposed
healthy dental pulps. By contrast, pulps treated with
carrier matrix alone, do not form reparative dentin.

15

Similarly, implanting demineralized teeth and OP-3 into surgically prepared canine tooth sockets is anticipated to stimulate new periodontal tissue formation, including new cementum and periodontal ligament, as well as new alveolar bone and dentin tissue, as described for OP-1 in international application PCT/US92/08742, filed 9/15/93. By contrast, untreated teeth or teeth treated with carrier vehicle alone do not induce periodontal tissue growth.

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7.4 Morphogen-Induced Nerve Tissue Repair

As yet another example, the induction of regenerative effects on central nervous system (CNS) repair, by a morphogenically active fragment of OP-3, may be demonstrated using a rat brain stab model. In the experiment, male Long Evans rats are anesthetized

and the head area prepared for surgery. The calvariae is exposed using standard surgical procedures and a hole drilled toward the center of each lobe using a 0.035K wire, just piercing the calvariae. 25µl solutions containing either morphogen (e.g., OP-3, 25µg) or PBS then is provided to each of the holes by Hamilton syringe. Solutions are delivered to a depth approximately 3 mm below the surface, into the underlying cortex, corpus callosum and hippocampus.

10 The skin then is sutured and the animal allowed to recover.

Three days post surgery, rats are sacrificed by decapitation and their brains processed for sectioning.

15 Scar tissue formation is evaluated by immunofluoresence staining for glial fibrillary acidic protein, a marker protein for glial scarring, to qualitatively determine the degree of scar formation. Sections also are probed with OP-3-specific antibody to determine the presence of the protein. Reduced levels of glial fibrillary acidic protein are anticipated to be observed in the tissue sections of animals treated with OP-3, evidencing the ability of the morphogen to inhibit glial scar formation, thereby stimulating nerve regeneration.

The ability of OP-3 to stimulate peripheral nervous system axonal growth over extended distances may be demonstrated using the following model. Neurons of the peripheral nervous system can sprout new processes on their own following injury, but without guidance these sproutings typically fail to connect appropriately and

die. Where the break is extensive, e.g., greater than 5 or 10 mm, regeneration is poor or nonexistent. Previous experiments with other morphogens, e.g., OP-1, show that morphogens stimulate peripheral nervous system axonal growth over extended distances, allowing repair and regeneration of damaged peripheral neural pathways.

In this example OP-3 stimulation of nerve
regeneration is demonstrated using the rat sciatic
nerve model. The rat sciatic nerve can regenerate
spontaneously across a 5 mm gap, and occasionally
across a 10 mm gap, provided that the severed ends are
inserted in a saline-filled nerve guidance channel. In
this experiment, nerve regeneration across at least a
12mm gap is tested.

Adult female Sprague-Dawley rats (Charles River Laboratories, Inc.) weighing 230-250 g are anesthetized with intraperitoneal injections of sodium pentobarbital (35 mg/kg body weight). A skin incision is made parallel and just posterior to the femur. The avascular intermuscular plane between vastus lateralis and hamstring muscles are entered and followed to the loose fibroareolar tissue surrounding the sciatic nerve. The loose tissue is divided longitudinally thereby freeing the sciatic nerve over its full extent without devascularizing any portion. Under a surgical microscope the sciatic nerves are transected with

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microscissors at mid-thigh and grafted with a OP-3 gel graft that separates the nerve stumps by 12 mm. graft region is encased in a silicone tube 20 mm in length with a 1.5 mm inner diameter, the interior of 5 which is filled with the morphogen solution. Specifically, the central 12 mm of the tube consists of an OP-3 gel prepared by mixing 1 to 5 μ g of substantially pure recombinantly produced OP-3 protein with approximately 100 µl of MATRIGELTM (from 10 Collaborative Research, Inc., Bedford, MA), an extracellular matrix extract derived from mouse sarcoma tissue, and containing solubilized tissue basement membrane, including laminin, type IV collagen, heparin sulfate, proteoglycan and entactin, in phosphate-15 buffered saline. The morphogen-filled tube then is implanted directly into the defect site, allowing 4 mm on each end to insert the nerve stumps. Each stump is abutted against the morphogen gel and is secured in the silicone tube by three stitches of commercially available surgical 10-0 nylon through the epineurium,

In addition to OP-3 gel grafts, control grafts of empty silicone tubes, silicone tubes filled with gel only and "reverse" autografts, wherein 12 mm transected segments of the animal's sciatic nerve are rotated 180° prior to suturing, preferably also are grafted. All experiments preferably are performed in quadruplicate. All wounds preferably are closed by wound clips that are removed after 10 days. Rats can be grafted on both

the fascicle protective sheath.

legs. At 3 weeks the animals are sacrificed, and the grafted segments removed and frozen on dry ice immediately. Frozen sections then are cut throughout the graft site, and examined for axonal regeneration by immunofluorescent staining using anti-neurofilament antibodies labeled with flurocein (obtained, for example, from Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis).

Regeneration of the sciatic nerve is anticipated to occur across the entire 12 mm distance in all graft sites wherein the gap is filled with the OP-3 gel. By contrast, empty silicone tubes, gel alone and reverse autografts do not show nerve regeneration.

15 Example 8. <u>Identification of Morphogen-Expressing</u> Tissue

Determining the tissue distribution of morphogens may be used to identify different morphogens expressed in a given tissue, as well as to identify new, related morphogens. Tissue distribution also may be used to identify useful morphogen-producing tissue for use in screening and identifying candidate morphogen-stimulating agents. The morphogens (or their mRNA transcripts) readily are identified in different tissues using standard methodologies and minor modifications thereof in tissues where expression may be low. For example, protein distribution may be determined using standard Western blot analysis or immunofluorescent techniques, and antibodies specific

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to the morphogen or morphogens of interest. Similarly, the distribution of morphogen transcripts may be determined using standard Northern hybridization protocols and transcript-specific probes.

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Any probe capable of hybridizing specifically to a transcript, and distinguishing the transcript of interest from other, related transcripts may be used. Because the morphogens described herein share such high 10 sequence homology in their active, C-terminal domains, the tissue distribution of a specific morphogen transcript may best be determined using a probe specific for the pro region of the immature protein and/or the N-terminal region of the mature protein. 15 Another useful sequence is the 3' non-coding region flanking and immediately following the stop codon. These portions of the sequence vary substantially among the morphogens of this invention, and accordingly, are specific for each protein. For example, a particularly 20 useful OP-3-specific probe sequence is one derived from a portion of the 3' untranslated sequence, e.g., nucleotides 1310-1674 of Seq. ID No. 1, which shares little or no homology with other morphogen sequences, including OP-2. The chosen fragment then is labelled 25 using standard means well known and described in the art.

Using these morphogen-specific probes, which may be synthetically engineered or obtained from cloned

30 sequences, morphogen transcripts can be identified in mammalian tissue, using standard methodologies well

known to those having ordinary skill in the art. A detailed description of a suitable hybridization protocol is described in Ozkaynak, et al., (1991) Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commn. 179:116-123, and 5 Ozkaynak, et al. (1992) J. Biol. Chemistry 267:25220-25227. Briefly, total RNA is prepared from various tissues (e.g., murine embryo and developing and adult liver, kidney, testis, heart, brain, thymus, stomach) by a standard methodology such as by the 10 method of Chomczyaski et al. ((1987) Anal. Biochem 162:156-159) and described below. Poly (A)+ RNA is prepared by using oligo (dT)-cellulose chromatography (e.g., Type 7, from Pharmacia LKB Biotechnology, Inc.). Poly (A)+ RNA (generally 15 μ g) from each tissue is 15 fractionated on a 1% agarose/formaldehyde gel and transferred onto a Nytran membrane (Schleicher & Schuell). Following the transfer, the membrane is baked at 80°C and the RNA is cross-linked under UV light (generally 30 seconds at 1 mW/cm²). Prior to 20 hybridization, the appropriate probe is denatured by heating. The hybridization is carried out in a lucite cylinder rotating in a roller bottle apparatus at approximately 1 rev/min for approximately 15 hours at 37°C using a hybridization mix of 40% formamide, 25 5 x Denhardts, 5 x SSPE, and 0.1% SDS. Following hybridization, the non-specific counts are washed off the filters in 0.1 x SSPE, 0.1% SDS at 50°C.

An OP-3-specific 0.5 kb probe was made from a StuI-30 BglII fragment of OP-3 cDNA. The fragment contains the 3' untranslated sequence from nucleotides 1310-1674, plus an additional 140 bases. The fragment was

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labelled using standard techniques and the hybridization performed as described. To date, OP-3, like OP-2, appears to be expressed primarily in early embryonic tissue. Specifically, Northern blots of murine embryos show abundant OP-3 expression in 8-day embryos, demonstrated by a strong band at 2.9 kb and a weaker band at 2.3 kb.

Example 9. Screening Assay for Candidate Compounds which Alter Endogenous Morphogen Levels

Candidate compound(s) which may be administered to affect the level of endogenous OP-3 morphogen may be found using the following screening assay, in which the level of OP-3 production by a cell type which produces measurable levels of the morphogen is determined with and without incubating the cell in culture with the compound, in order to assess the effects of the compound on the cell. This can be accomplished by detection of the morphogen either at the protein or RNA level. A detailed description also may be found in international application PCT/US92/07359, (WO93/05172).

9.1 Growth of Cells in Culture

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Cell cultures of kidney, adrenals, urinary bladder, brain, or other organs, may be prepared as described widely in the literature. For example, kidneys may be explanted from neonatal or new born or young or adult rodents (mouse or rat) and used in organ culture as whole or sliced (1-4 mm) tissues. Primary tissue

cultures and established cell lines, also derived from kidney, adrenals, urinary, bladder, brain, mammary, or other tissues may be established in multiwell plates (6 well or 24 well) according to conventional cell culture techniques, and are cultured in the absence or presence of serum for a period of time (1-7 days). Cells may be cultured, for example, in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle medium (Gibco, Long Island, NY) containing serum (e.g., fetal calf serum at 1%-10%, Gibco) or in serum-deprived medium, as desired, or in defined medium (e.g., containing insulin, transferrin, glucose, albumin, or other growth factors).

production includes culture supernatants or cell
lysates, collected periodically and evaluated for
morphogen production by immunoblot analysis (Sambrook
et al., eds., 1989, Molecular Cloning, Cold Spring
Harbor Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY), or a portion of
the cell culture itself, collected periodically and
used to prepare polyA+ RNA for RNA analysis. To
monitor de novo morphogen synthesis, some cultures are
labeled according to conventional procedures with an

35 S-methionine/35 S-cysteine mixture for 6-24 hours and
then evaluated for morphogenic protein synthesis by
conventional immunoprecipitation methods.

9.2 Determination of Level of Morphogenic Protein

In order to quantitate the production of a morphogenic protein, e.g., OP-3, by a cell type, an immunoassay may be performed to detect the morphogen

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using a polyclonal or monoclonal antibody specific for that protein. For example, OP-3 may be detected using a polyclonal antibody specific for OP-3 in an ELISA, as follows.

5

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1 μ g/100 μ l of affinity-purified polyclonal rabbit IgG specific for OP-3 is added to each well of a 96-well plate and incubated at 37°C for an hour. wells are washed four times with 0.167M sodium borate 10 buffer with 0.15 M NaCl (BSB), pH 8.2, containing 0.1% Tween 20. To minimize non-specific binding, the wells are blocked by filling completely with 1% bovine serum albumin (BSA) in BSB and incubating for 1 hour at 37°C. The wells are then washed four times with BSB 15 containing 0.1% Tween 20. A 100 μ l aliquot of an appropriate dilution of each of the test samples of cell culture supernatant is added to each well in triplicate and incubated at 37°C for 30 min. After incubation, 100 μ l biotinylated rabbit anti-OP-3 serum (stock solution is about 1 mg/ml and diluted 1:400 in BSB containing 1% BSA before use) is added to each well and incubated at 37°C for 30 min. The wells are then washed four times with BSB containing 0.1% Tween 20. 100 μl strepavidin-alkaline (Southern Biotechnology 25 Associates, Inc. Birmingham, Alabama, diluted 1:2000 in BSB containing 0.1% Tween 20 before use) is added to each well and incubated at 37°C for 30 min. The plates are washed four times with 0.5M Tris buffered Saline (TBS), pH 7.2. 50μ l substrate (ELISA Amplification 30 System Kit, Life Technologies, Inc., Bethesda, MD) is

added to each well incubated at room temperature for 15

min. Then, 50 μl amplifier (from the same amplification system kit) is added and incubated for another 15 min at room temperature. The reaction is stopped by the addition of 50 μl 0.3 M sulphuric acid.
5 The OD at 490 nm of the solution in each well is recorded. To quantitate OP-3 in culture media, an OP-3 standard curve is performed in parallel with the test samples.

Polyclonal antibody may be prepared as follows. 10 Each rabbit is given a primary immunization of 100 ug/500 μ l recombinantly-produced OP-3 protein or protein fragment in 0.1% SDS mixed with 500 μ l Complete Freund's Adjuvant. The antigen is injected 15 subcutaneously at multiple sites on the back and flanks of the animal. The rabbit is boosted after a month in the same manner using incomplete Freund's Adjuvant. Test bleeds are taken from the ear vein seven days later. Two additional boosts and test bleeds are 20 performed at monthly intervals until antibody against OP-3 is detected in the serum using an ELISA assay. Then, the rabbit is boosted monthly with 100 μ g of antigen and bled (15 ml per bleed) at days seven and ten after boosting.

25

Monoclonal antibody specific for a given morphogen may be prepared as follows. A mouse is given two injections of OP-3 protein or a protein fragment specific for OP-3. The protein preferably is recombinantly produced. The first injection contains 100µg of OP-3 in complete Freund's adjuvant and is given subcutaneously. The second injection contains 50 µg of OP-3 in incomplete adjuvant and is given intraperitoneally. The mouse then r ceives a total of

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230 μ g of OP-3 in four intraperitoneal injections at various times over an eight month period. One week prior to fusion, the mouse is boosted intraperitoneally with OP-3 (e.g., 100 μ g) and may be additionally 5 boosted with an OP-3-specific peptide (e.g., corresponding to the N-terminus of the mature protein) conjugated to bovine serum albumin with a suitable crosslinking agent. This boost can be repeated five days (IP), four days (IP), three days (IP) and one day 10 (IV) prior to fusion. The mouse spleen cells then are fused to commercially available myeloma cells at a ratio of 1:1 using PEG 1500 (Boeringer Mannheim, Germany), and the fused cells plated and screened for OP-3-specific antibodies using OP-3 as antigen. The 15 cell fusion and monoclonal screening steps readily are performed according to standard procedures well described in standard texts widely available in the art.

20 Other Embodiments

The invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential characteristics thereof. The present embodiments are therefore to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, the scope of the invention being indicated by the appended claims rather than by the foregoing description, and all changes which come within the meaning and range of equivalency of the claims are therefore intended to be embraced therein.

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SEQUENCE LISTING

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:
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(I) TELEX:
(ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: OP3-INDUCED MORPHOGENESIS
(iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 13
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(♥) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
(A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
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(B) FILING DATE: 11-HAR-1991
(vii) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA:
(A) APPLICATION NUMBER: US 07/752,764 (B) FILING DATE: 30-AUG-1991
. ,
(vii) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA: (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: US 07/753,059
(B) FILING DATE: 30-AUG-1991

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	(vii) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA: (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: US 07/752,857 (B) FILING DATE: 30-AUG-1991	
5	<pre>(vii) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA: (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: US 07/923,780 (B) FILING DATE: 31-JUL-1992</pre>	
10	(vii) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA: (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: US 07/922,813 (B) FILING DATE: 31-JUL-1992	
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20	(1x) TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION: (A) TELEPHONE: (508)435-9001	
	(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:	
25	(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 1674 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
30	(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein	
35	(ix) FEATURE: (A) NAME/KEY: CDS (B) LOCATION: 691268 (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /note= "mOP3-PP"	
40	(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:	
40	GGATCCGCGG CGCTGTCCCA TCCTTGTCGT CGAGGCGTCG CTGGATGCGA GTCCGCTAAA	60
45	CGTCCGAG ATG GCT GCG CGT CCG GGA CTC CTA TGG CTA CTG GGC CTG GCT Het Ala Ala Arg Pro Gly Leu Leu Trp Leu Leu Gly Leu Ala 1 5 10	110
50	CTG TGC GTG TTG GGC GGC GGT CAC CTC TCG CAT CCC CCG CAC GTC TTT Leu Cys Val Leu Gly Gly His Leu Ser His Pro Pro His Val Phe 15 20 25 30	158

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	CCC Pro	CAG Gln	CGT Arg	CGA Arg	CTA Leu 35	GGA Gly	GTA Val	CGC Arg	GAG Glu	CCC Pro 40	CGC Arg	GAC Asp	ATG Met	CAG Gln	CGC Arg 45	GAG Glu	206
5	ATT Ile	CGG Arg	GAG Glu	GTG Val 50	CTG Leu	GGG Gly	CTA Leu	GCC Ala	GGG Gly 55	CGG Arg	CCC Pro	CGA Arg	TCC Ser	CGA Arg 60	GCA Ala	CCG Pro	254
10	GTC Val	GGG Gly	GCT Ala 65	GCC Ala	CAG Gln	CAG Gln	CCA Pro	GCG Ala 70	TCT Ser	GCG Ala	CCC Pro	CTC Leu	TTT Phe 75	ATG Het	TTG Leu	GAC Asp	302
15	CTG Leu	TAC Tyr 80	CGT Arg	GCC Ala	ATG Het	ACG Thr	GAT Asp 85	GAC Asp	AGT Ser	GGC Gly	GGT Gly	GGG Gly 90	ACC Thr	CCG Pro	CAG Gln	CCT Pro	350
20	CAC His 95	TTG Leu	GAC Asp	CGT Arg	GCT Ala	GAC Asp 100	CTG Leu	ATT Ile	ATG Het	AGC Ser	TTT Phe 105	GTC Val	AAC Asn	ATA Ile	GTG Val	GAA Glu 110	398
20	CGC Arg	GAC Asp	CGT Arg	ACC Thr	CTG Leu 115	GGC Gly	TAC Tyr	CAG Gln	GAG Glu	CCA Pro 120	CAC His	TGG Trp	AAG Lys	GAA Glu	TTC Phe 125	CAC His	446
25	TTT Phe	GAC Asp	CTA Leu	ACC Thr 130	CAG Gln	ATC Ile	CCT Pro	GCT Ala	GGG Gly 135	GAG Glu	GCT Ala	GTC Val	ACA Thr	GCT Ala 140	GCT Ala	GAG Glu	494
30	TTC Phe	CGG Arg	ATC Ile 145	TAC Tyr	AAA Lys	GAA Glu	CCC Pro	AGT Ser 150	ACC Thr	CAC His	CCG Pro	CTC	AAC Asn 155	ACA Thr	ACC Thr	CTC Leu	542
35	CAC His	ATC Ile 160	Ser	ATG Met	TTC Phe	GAA Glu	GTG Val 165	GTC Val	CAA Gln	GAG Glu	CAC His	TCC Ser 170	AAC Asn	AGG Arg	GAG Glu	TCT Ser	590
40	GAC Asp 175	TTG Leu	TTC Phe	TIT Phe	TTG Leu	GAT Asp 180	CTT Leu	CAG Gln	ACG Thr	CTC Leu	CGA Arg 185	TCT Ser	GGG Gly	GAC Asp	GAG Glu	GGC Gly 190	638
40	TGG Trp	CTG Leu	GTG Val	CTG Leu	GAC Asp 195	ATC Ile	ACA Thr	GCA Ala	GCC Ala	AGT Ser 200	GAC Asp	CGA Arg	TGG Trp	CTG Leu	CTG Leu 205	AAC Asn	686
45	CAT His	His	Lys	GAC Asp 210	Leu	Gly	Leu	Arg	Leu	Tyr	GTG Val	GAA Glu	ACC Thr	GAG Glu 220	GAT Asp	GGG Gly	734

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					CCT												782
5			Arg		CCT Pro												830
10					CCT Pro												878
15					CAG Gln 275												926
20					GGT Gly											GAG Glu	974
20					TTC Phe												1022
25					TCC Ser			_	_								1070
30					ATG Met												1118
35					AAG Lys 355												1166
40					GCC Ala												1214
4 0					AGG Arg		Arg										1262
45	CAC His	TGAC	TCCC	TG C	CCAA	CAGO	C TO	CTGC	CATO	CCA	TCTA	TCT	AGTO	AGGC	CT		1315
50	CTCT	TCCA	LAG G	CAGG	AAAC	C AA	CAAA	GAGG	GAA	.GGCA	GTG	CTTT	CAAC	TC C	ATGI	CCACA	1375

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	TTCACAGTCT TGGCCCTCTC TGTTCTTTTT GCCAAGGCTG AGAAGATGGT CCTAGTTATA	
	ACCCTGGTGA CCTCAGTAGC CCGATCTCTC ATCTCCCCAA ACTCCCCAAT GCAGCCAGGG	
5	GCATCTATGT CCTTTGGGAT TGGGCACAGA AGTCCAATTT ACCAACTTAT TCATGAGTCA	
	CTACTGGCCC AGCCTGGACT TGAACCTGGA ACACAGGGTA GAGCTCAGGC TCTTCAGTAT	
10	CCATCAGAAG ATTTAGGTGT GTGCAGACAT GACCACACTC CCCCTAGCAC TCCATAGCC	
	(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:	
15	 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 399 amino acids (B) TYPE: amino acid (D) TOPOLOGY: linear 	
20	(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:	
25	Met Ala Ala Arg Pro Gly Leu Leu Trp Leu Leu Gly Leu Ala Leu Cys 1 5 10 15	
23	Val Leu Gly Gly Gly His Leu Ser His Pro Pro His Val Phe Pro Gln 20 25 30	
30	Arg Arg Leu Gly Val Arg Glu Pro Arg Asp Het Gln Arg Glu Ile Arg 35 40 45	
	Glu Val Leu Gly Leu Ala Gly Arg Pro Arg Ser Arg Ala Pro Val Gly 50 55 60	
35	Ala Ala Gln Gln Pro Ala Ser Ala Pro Leu Phe Het Leu Asp Leu Tyr 65 70 75 80	
40	Arg Ala Het Thr Asp Asp Ser Gly Gly Gly Thr Pro Gln Pro His Leu 85 90 95	
	Asp Arg Ala Asp Leu Ile Het Ser Phe Val Asn Ile Val Glu Arg Asp 100 105 110	
45	Arg Thr Leu Gly Tyr Gln Glu Pro His Trp Lys Glu Phe His Phe Asp 115 120 125	
	Leu Thr Gln Ile Pro Ala Gly Glu Ala Val Thr Ala Ala Glu Phe Arg 130 135 140	

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	Ile 145	Tyr	Lys	Glu	Pro	Ser 150	Thr	His	Pro	Leu	Asn 155	Thr	Thr	Leu	His	11e
5	Ser	Het	Phe	Glu	Val 165	Val	Gln	Glu	His	Ser 170	Asn	Arg	Glu	Ser	Asp 175	Leu
	Phe	Phe	Leu	Asp 180	Leu	Gln	Thr	Leu	Arg 185	Ser	Gly	Asp	Glu	Gly 190	Trp	Leu
10	Val	Leu	Asp 195	Ile	Thr	Ala	Ala	Ser 200	Asp	Arg	Trp	Leu	Leu 205	Asn	His	His
15	Lys	Asp 210	Leu	Gly	Leu	Arg	Leu 215	Tyr	Val	Glu	Thr	Glu 220	Asp	Gly	His	Ser
	Ile 225	Asp	Pro	Gly	Leu	Ala 230	Gly	Leu	Leu	Gly	Arg 235	G1n	Ala	Pro	Arg	Ser 240
20	Arg	Gln	Pro	Phe	Met 245	Val	Gly	Phe	Phe	Arg 250	Ala	Asn	Gln		Pro 255	Val
	Arg	Ala	Pro	Arg 260	Thr	Ala	Arg	Pro	Leu 265	Lys	Lys	Lys	Gln	Leu 270	Asn	Gln
25	Ile	Asn	Gln 275	Leu	Pro	His	Ser	Asn 280	Lys	His	Leu	Gly	Ile 285	Leu	Asp	Asp
30	Gly	His 290	Gly	Ser	His	Gly	Arg 295	Glu	Val	Cys	Arg	Arg 300	His	Glu	Leu	Tyr
,0	Val 305	Ser	Phe	Arg	Asp	Leu 310	Gly	Trp	Leu	Asp	Ser 315	Val ·	Ile	Ala	Pro	Gln 320
15	Gly	Tyr	Ser	Ala	Tyr 325	Tyr	Cys	Ala	Gly	Glu 330	Cys	Ile	Tyr	Pro	Leu 335	Asn
	Ser	Cys	Het	Asn 340	Ser	Thr	Asn	His	Ala 345	Thr	Het	Gln	Ala	Leu 350	Val	His
10	Leu	Het	Lys 355	Pro	Asp	Ile	Ile	Pro 360	Lys	Val	Cys	Cys	Val 365	Pro	Thr	Glu
15	Leu	Ser 370	Ala	Ile	Ser	Leu	Leu 375	Tyr	Tyr	Asp	Arg	Asn 380	Asn	Asn	Val	Ile
	Leu 385	Arg	Arg	Glu	Arg	Asn 390	Жеt	Val	Val	Gln	Ala 395	Cys	Gly	Cys	His	

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	(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:	
5	(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 1822 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
10	(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA	
	(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO	
	(1v) ANTI-SENSE: NO	
15	(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE: (A) ORGANISM: HOMO SAPIENS (F) TISSUE TYPE: HIPPOCAMPUS	
20	<pre>(ix) FEATURE: (A) NAME/KEY: CDS (B) LOCATION: 491341 (C) IDENTIFICATION METHOD: experimental (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /function= "OSTEOGENIC PROTEIN"</pre>	
25	/product= "hOP1-PP" /note= "hOP1 cDNA"	
30	(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3: GGTGCGGGCC CGGAGCCCGG AGCCCGGGTA GCGCGTAGAG CCGGCGCG ATG CAC GTG 57	
	Met His Val 1	
35	CGC TCA CTG CGA GCT GCG GCG CCG CAC AGC TTC GTG GCG CTC TGG GCA Arg Ser Leu Arg Ala Ala Ala Pro His Ser Phe Val Ala Leu Trp Ala 5 10 15	
40	CCC CTG TTC CTG CGC CGC TCC GCC CTG GCC GAC TTC AGC CTG GAC AAC Pro Leu Phe Leu Leu Arg Ser Ala Leu Ala Asp Phe Ser Leu Asp Asn 20 25 30 35	
45	GAG GTG CAC TCG AGC TTC ATC CAC CGG CGC CTC CGC AGC CAG GAG CGG Glu Val His Ser Ser Phe Ile His Arg Arg Leu Arg Ser Gln Glu Arg 40 45 50	
-1-	CGG GAG ATG CAG CGC GAG ATC CTC TCC ATT TTG GGC TTG CCC CAC CGC Arg Glu Het Gln Arg Glu Ile Leu Ser Ile Leu Gly Leu Pro His Arg 55 60 65	

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	CCG Pro	CGC Arg	CCG Pro 70	CAC His	CTC Leu	CAG Gln	GGC Gly	AAG Lys 75	CAC His	AAC Asn	TCG Ser	GCA Ala	CCC Pro 80	ATG Het	TTC Phe	ATG Het	297
5					AAC Asn												345
10					TCC Ser												393
15					AGC Ser 120												441
20					TTC Phe											TTC Phe	489
20					CAC His												537
25					GCT Ala											GAC Asp	585
30					CGC Arg												633
35					GAG Glu 200												6,81
40					CTC Leu												729
•					AGC Ser												777
45					TCG Ser	Val											825

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	AAG Lys 260	TTG Leu	GCG Ala	GGC Gly	CTG Leu	ATT Ile 265	GGG Gly	CGG Arg	CAC His	GGG Gly	CCC Pro 270	CAG Gln	AAC Asn	AAG Lys	CAG Gln	CCC Pro 275	873
5	TTC Phe	ATG Het	GTG Val	GCT Ala	TTC Phe 280	TTC Phe	AAG Lys	GCC Ala	ACG Thr	GAG Glu 285	GTC Val	CAC His	TTC Phe	CGC Arg	AGC Ser 290	ATC Ile	921
10	CGG Arg	TCC Ser	ACG Thr	GGG Gly 295	AGC Ser	AAA Lys	CAG Gln	CGC Arg	AGC Ser 300	CAG Gln	AAC Asn	CGC Arg	TCC Ser	AAG Lys 305	ACG Thr	CCC Pro	969
15	AAG Lys	AAC Asn	CAG Gln 310	GAA Glu	GCC Ala	CTG Leu	CGG Arg	ATG Met 315	GCC Ala	AAC Asn	GTG Val	GCA Ala	GAG Glu 320	AAC Asn	AGC Ser	AGC Ser	1017
20	AGC Ser	GAC Asp 325	CAG Gln	AGG Arg	CAG Gln	GCC Ala	TGT Cys 330	AAG Lys	AAG Lys	CAC His	GAG Glu	CTG Leu 335	TAT Tyr	GTC Val	AGC Ser	TTC Phe	1065
20	CGA Arg 340	GAC Asp	CTG Leu	GGC Gly	TGG Trp	CAG Gln 345	GAC Asp	TGG Trp	ATC Ile	ATC Ile	GCG Ala 350	CCT Pro	GAA Glu	GGC Gly	TAC Tyr	GCC Ala 355	1113
25														TCC Ser			.1161
30														TTC Phe 385			1209
35														CTC Leu			1257
40	ATC Ile	TCC Ser 405	GTC Val	CTC Leu	TAC Tyr	TTC Phe	GAT Asp 410	GAC Asp	AGC Ser	TCC Ser	AAC Asn	GTC Val 415	ATC Ile	CTG Leu	AAG Lys	AAA Lys	1305
40							CGG Arg						TAGO	TCCI	rcc		1351
45	GAGA	ATTO	CAG A	CCCI	TTGO	G GC	CAAG	TTT	TCI	GGAI	CCT	CCAI	TGCI	rcg (CTT	GCCAG	1411
	GAAC	CAGO	AG A	CCAA	CTGC	C TI	TTGI	GAGA	CCI	TCCC	CTC	CCTA	TCC	CA A	CTT	CAAAGG	1471

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	TGTGAGAGTA TTAGGAAACA TGAGCAGCAT ATGGCTTTTG ATCAGTTT	TT CAGTGGCAGC
	ATCCAATGAA CAAGATCCTA CAAGCTGTGC AGGCAAAACC TAGCAGGA	AAAAAAAAAAAAAA
5	GCATAAAGAA AAATGGCCGG GCCAGGTCAT TGGCTGGGAA GTCTCAGC	CA TGCACGGACT
	CGTTTCCAGA GGTAATTATG AGCGCCTACC AGCCAGGCCA CCCAGCCG	TG GGAGGAAGGG
10	GGCGTGGCAA GGGGTGGGCA CATTGGTGTC TGTGCGAAAG GAAAATTG	AC CCGGAAGTTC
10	CTGTAATAAA TGTCACAATA AAACGAATGA ATGAAAAAAA AAAAAAAA	AA A
	(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4:	
15	(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:	
	(A) LENGTH: 431 amino acids (B) TYPE: amino acid	
20	(D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
	(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein	
	(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:	
25	Met His Val Arg Ser Leu Arg Ala Ala Ala Pro His Ser 1 5 10	Phe Val Ala 15
	Leu Trp Ala Pro Leu Phe Leu Leu Arg Ser Ala Leu Ala	Asp Phe Ser
30	20 25	30
	Leu Asp Asn Glu Val His Ser Ser Phe Ile His Arg Arg 35 40 45	Leu Arg Ser
	Gln Glu Arg Arg Glu Het Gln Arg Glu Ile Leu Ser Ile	Leu Gly Leu
35	50 55 60	0 41a D
	Pro His Arg Pro Arg Pro His Leu Gln Gly Lys His Asn 65 70 75	Ser Ala Pro
40	Het Phe Het Leu Asp Leu Tyr Asn Ala Het Ala Val Glu 85 90	Glu Gly Gly 95
45	Gly Pro Gly Gly Gln Gly Phe Ser Tyr Pro Tyr Lys Ala 100 105	110
45	Thr Gln Gly Pro Pro Leu Ala Ser Leu Gln Asp Ser His 115 120 125	Phe Leu Thr

	Asp	Ala 130	Asp	Het	Val	Het	Ser 135	Phe	Val	Asn	Leu	Val 140	Glu	His	Asp	Lys
5	Glu 145	Phe	Phe	His	Pro	Arg 150	Tyr	His	His	Arg	Glu 155	Phe	Arg	Phe	Asp	Le:
	Ser	Lys	Ile	Pro	Glu 165	Gly	Glu	Ala	Val	Thr 170	Ala	Ala	Glu	Phe	Arg 175	Ile
10	Tyr	Lys	Asp	Tyr 180	Ile	Arg	Glu	Arg	Phe 185	Asp	Asn	Glu	Thr	Phe 190	Arg	Ile
15	Ser	Val	Tyr 195	. Gln	Val	Leu		Glu 200	His	Leu	Gly	Arg	Glu 205	Ser	Asp	Let
	Phe	Leu 210	Leu	Asp	Ser	Arg	Thr 215	Leu	Trp	Ala	Ser	Glu 220	Glu	Gly	Trp	Let
20	Val 225	Phe	Asp	Ile	Thr	Ala 230	Thr	Ser	Asn	His	Trp 235	Val	Val	Asn	Pro	Arg 240
	His	Asn	Leu	Gly	Leu 245	Gln	Leu	Ser	Val	Glu 250	Thr	Leu	Asp	Gly	Gln 255	Ser
25	Ile	Asn	Pro	Lys 260	Leu	Ala	Gly	Leu	Ile 265	Gly	Arg	His	Gly	Pro 270	Gln	Ası
30	Lys	Gln	Pro 275	Phe	Het	Val	Ala	Phe 280	Phe	Lys	Ala	Thr	Glu 285	Val	His	Phe
	Arg	Ser 290	Ile	Arg	Ser	Thr	Gly 295	Ser	Lys	Gln	Arg	Ser 300	Gln	Asn	Arg	Ser
35	Lys 305	Thr	Pro	Lys	Asn	Gln 310	Glu	Ala	Leu	Arg	Met 315	Ala	Asn	Val	Ala	Glu 320
	Asn	Ser	Ser	Ser	Asp 325	Gln	Arg	Gln	Ala	Cys 330	Lys	Lys	His	Glu	Leu 335	Tyı
10	Val	Ser	Phe	Arg 340	Asp	Leu	Gly	Trp	Gln 345	Asp	Trp	Ile	Ile	Ala 350	Pro	Glu
15	Gly	Tyr	Ala 355	Ala	Tyr	Tyr	Cys	Glu 360	Gly	Glu	Cys	Ala	Phe 365	Pro	Leu	Asr
-	Ser	T yr 370	Het	Asn	Ala	Thr	Asn 375	His	Ala	Ile	Val	Gln 380	Thr	Leu	Val	His
0	Phe 385	Ile	Asn	Pro	Glu	Thr 390	Val	Pro	Lys	Pro	Cys 395	Cys	Ala	Pro	Thr	Glr 400

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	Leu Asn Ala Ile Ser Val Leu Tyr Phe Asp Asp Ser Ser Asn Val Ile 405 410 415	
5	Leu Lys Lys Tyr Arg Asn Het Val Val Arg Ala Cys Gly Cys His 420 425 430	
	(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:5:	
10	(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 1873 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
15	(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA	
	(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO	
20	(iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO	
	(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE: (A) ORGANISH: MURIDAE (F) TISSUE TYPE: EMBRYO	
25	<pre>(ix) FEATURE: (A) NAME/KEY: CDS (B) LOCATION: 1041393 (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /function= "OSTEOGENIC PROTEIN"</pre>	
30	/note= "MOP1 (cDNA)"	
	(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:	
35	CTGCAGCAAG TGACCTCGGG TCGTGGACCG CTGCCCTGCC	60
	CGGCGCGGGC CCGGTGCCCC GGATCGCGCG TAGAGCCGGC GCG ATG CAC GTG CGC Het His Val Arg 1	115
40	TCG CTG CGC GCT GCG GCG CCA CAC AGC TTC GTG GCG CTC TGG GCG CCT Ser Leu Arg Ala Ala Pro His Ser Phe Val Ala Leu Trp Ala Pro 5 10 15 20	163
45	CTG TTC TTG CTG CGC TCC GCC CTG GCC GAT TTC AGC CTG GAC AAC GAG Leu Phe Leu Leu Arg Ser Ala Leu Ala Asp Phe Ser Leu Asp Asn Glu 25 30 35	211

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															CGG Arg		259
5															CGC Arg		307
10	CGC Arg	CCG Pro 70	CAC His	CTC Leu	CAG Gln	GGA Gly	AAG Lys 75	CAT His	AAT Asn	TCG Ser	GCG Ala	CCC Pro 80	ATG Met	TTC Phe	ATG Het	TTG Leu	355
15	GAC Asp 85	CTG Leu	TAC Tyr	AAC Asn	GCC Ala	ATG Met 90	GCG Ala	GTG Val	GAG Glu	GAG Glu	AGC Ser 95	GGG Gly	CCG Pro	GAC Asp	GGA Gly	CAG Gln 100	403
20															CCC Pro 115		451
															ATG Met		499
2 5	ATG Met	AGC Ser	TTC Phe 135	GTC Val	AAC Asn	CTA Leu	GTG Val	GAA Glu 140	CAT His	GAC Asp	AAA Lys	GAA Glu	TTC Phe 145	TTC Phe	CAC His	CCT Pro	547
30						Glu									CCC		595
3 5															TAC Tyr		643
10															CAG Gln 195		691
															GAC Asp		739
															ATC Ile		787

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																	•
					CAC His												835
5	CAG Gln 245	CTC Leu	TCT Ser	GTG Val	GAG Glu	ACC Thr 250	CTG Leu	GAT Asp	GGG Gly	CAG Gln	AGC Ser 255	ATC Ile	AAC Asn	CCC Pro	AAG Lys	TTG Leu 260	883
10	GCA Ala	GGC Gly	CTG Leu	ATT Ile	GGA Gly 265	CGG Arg	CAT His	GGA Gly	CCC Pro	CAG Gln 270	AAC Asn	AAG Lys	CAA Gln	CCC Pro	TTC Phe 275	ATG Net	931
15					AAG Lys												979
20					CAG Gln											AAC Asn	1027
20					AGG Arg												1075
25					TGC Cys												1123
30					GAC Asp 345												1171
35					GAG Glu												1219
40					ATC Ile												1267
40					CCC Pro												1315
45	GTC Val 405				GAC Asp												1363

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	AAC ATG GTG GTC CGG GCC TGT GGC TGC CAC TAGCTCTTCC TGAGACCCTG Asn Het Val Val Arg Ala Cys Gly Cys His 425 430	1413
5	ACCTTTGCGG GGCCACACCT TTCCAAATCT TCGATGTCTC ACCATCTAAG TCTCTCACTG	1473
	CCCACCTTGG CGAGGAGAAC AGACCAACCT CTCCTGAGCC TTCCCTCACC TCCCAACCGG	1533
10	AAGCATGTAA GGGTTCCAGA AACCTGAGCG TGCAGCAGCT GATGAGCGCC CTTTCCTTCT	1593
10	GGCACGTGAC GGACAAGATC CTACCAGCTA CCACAGCAAA CGCCTAAGAG CAGGAAAAAT	1653
	GTCTGCCAGG AAAGTGTCCA GTGTCCACAT GGCCCCTGGC GCTCTGAGTC TTTGAGGAGT	1713
15	AATCGCAAGC CTCGTTCAGC TGCAGCAGAA GGAAGGGCTT AGCCAGGGTG GGCGCTGGCG	1773
	TCTGTGTTGA AGGGAAACCA AGCAGAAGCC ACTGTAATGA TATGTCACAA TAAAACCCAT	1833
20	GAATGAAAAA AAAAAAAAA AAAAAAAAA AAAAGAATTC	1873
	(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:6:	
25	 (1) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 430 amino acids (B) TYPE: amino acid (D) TOPOLOGY: linear 	
30	(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein	
	(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:6:	٠
	Met His Val Arg Ser Leu Arg Ala Ala Ala Pro His Ser Phe Val Ala 1 5 10 15	
35	Leu Trp Ala Pro Leu Phe Leu Leu Arg Ser Ala Leu Ala Asp Phe Ser 20 25 30	
10	Leu Asp Asn Glu Val His Ser Ser Phe Ile His Arg Arg Leu Arg Ser 35 40 45	
	Gln Glu Arg Arg Glu Met Gln Arg Glu Ile Leu Ser Ile Leu Gly Leu 50 55 60	
15	Pro His Arg Pro Arg Pro His Leu Gln Gly Lys His Asn Ser Ala Pro 65 70 75 80	

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	Met	Phe	Het	Leu	Asp 85	Leu	Tyr	Asn	Ala	Het 90	Ala	Val	Glu	Glu	Ser 95	Gly
5	Pro	Asp	Gly	Gln 100	Gly	Phe	Ser	Tyr	Pro 105	Tyr	Lys	Ala	Val	Phe 110	Ser	Th
	Gln	Gly	Pro 115	Pro	Leu	Ala	Ser	Leu 120	Gln	Asp	Ser	His	Phe 125	Leu	Thr	Asj
10	Ala	Asp 130	Het	Val	Het	Ser	Phe 135	Val	Asn	Leu		Glu 140	His	Asp	Lys	Glu
15	Phe 145	Phe	His	Pro	Arg	Tyr 150	His	His	Arg	Glu	Phe 155	Arg	Phe	Asp	Leu	Ser 160
13	Lys	Ile	Pro	Glu	Gly 165	Glu	Arg	Val	Thr	Ala 170	Ala	Glu	Phe	Arg	Ile 175	Тут
20	Lys	Asp	Tyr	Ile 180	Arg	Glu	Arg	Phe	Asp 185	Asn	Glu	Thr	Phe	Gln 190	Ile	Thr
	Val	Tyr	Gln 195	Val	Leu	Gln	Glu	His 200	Ser	Gly	Arg	Glu	Ser 205	Asp	Leu	Phe
25	Leu	Leu 210	Asp	Ser	Arg	Thr	Ile 215	Trp	Ala	Ser	Glu	Glu 220	Gly	Trp	Leu	Va]
30	Phe 225	Asp	Ile	Thr	Ala	Thr 230	Ser	Asn	His	Trp	Val 235	Val	Asn	Pro	Arg	His 240
•	Asn	Leu	Gly	Leu	Gln 245	Leu	Ser	Val	Glu	Thr 250	Leu	Asp	Gly	Gln	Ser 255	Ile
35	Asn	Pro	Lys	Leu 260	Ala	Gly	Leu	Ile	Gly 265	Arg	His	Gly	Pro	Gln 270	Asn	Lys
	Gln	Pro	Phe 275	Met	Val	Ala	Phe	Phe 280	Lys	Ala	Thr	Glu	Val 285	His	Leu	Arg
40	Ser	Ile 290	Arg	Ser	Thr	Gly	Gly 295	Lys	Gln	Arg	Ser	Gln 300	Asn	Arg	Ser	Lys
45	Thr 305	Pro	Lys	Asn	Gln	Glu 310	Ala	Leu	Arg	Het	Ala 315	Ser	Val	Ala	Glu	Asn 320
40	Ser	Ser	Ser	Asp	Gln 325	Arg	Gln	Ala	Cys	Lys 330	Lys	His	Glu	Leu	Tyr 335	Val

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60
120
180

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	GCGGCCACAG CCGGACTGGC GGGTACGGCG GCGACAGAGG CATTGGCCGA GAGTCCCAGT	240
	CCGCAGAGTA GCCCCGGCCT CGAGGCGGTG GCGTCCCGGT CCTCTCCGTC CAGGAGCCAG	300
5	GACAGGTGTC GCGCGGCGGG GCTCCAGGGA CCGCGCCTGA GGCCGGCTGC CCGCCCGTCC	360
	CGCCCCGCCC CGCCCGCCGA GCCCAGCCTC CTTGCCGTCG GGGCGTCCCC	420
10	AGGCCCTGGG TCGGCCGCGG AGCCGATGCG CGCCCGCTGA GCGCCCCAGC TGAGCGCCCC	480
10	CGGCCTGCC ATG ACC GCG CTC CCC GGC CCG CTC TGG CTC CTG GGC CTG Met Thr Ala Leu Pro Gly Pro Leu Trp Leu Leu Gly Leu 1 5 10	528
15	GCG CTA TGC GCG CTG GGC GGG GGC CCC GGC CTG CGA CCC CCG CCC Ala Leu Cys Ala Leu Gly Gly Gly Gly Pro Gly Leu Arg Pro Pro Pro 15 20 25	576
20	GGC TGT CCC CAG CGA CGT CTG GGC GCG CGC GAG CGC CGG GAC GTG CAG Gly Cys Pro Gln Arg Arg Leu Gly Ala Arg Glu Arg Arg Asp Val Gln 30 40 45	624
25	CGC GAG ATC CTG GCG GTG CTC GGG CTG CCT GGG CGG C	672
30	GCG CCA CCC GCC GCC TCC CGG CTG CCC GCG TCC GCG CCG C	720
30	CTG GAC CTG TAC CAC GCC ATG GCC GGC GAC GAC GAC GAC GAC GCG GCG Leu Asp Leu Tyr His Ala Het Ala Gly Asp Asp Asp Glu Asp Gly Ala 80 85 90	768
35	CCC GCG GAG CGG CGC CTG GGC CGC GCC GAC CTG GTC ATG AGC TTC GTT Pro Ala Glu Arg Arg Leu Gly Arg Ala Asp Leu Val Het Ser Phe Val 95	816
40	AAC ATG GTG GAG CGA GAC CGT GCC CTG GGC CAC CAG GAG CCC CAT TGG Asn Het Val Glu Arg Asp Arg Ala Leu Gly His Gln Glu Pro His Trp 110 125	864
45	AAG GAG TTC CGC TTT GAC CTG ACC CAG ATC CCG GCT GGG GAG GCG GTC Lys Glu Phe Arg Phe Asp Leu Thr Gln Ile Pro Ala Gly Glu Ala Val 130	912
50	ACA GCT GCG GAG TTC CGG ATT TAC AAG GTG CCC AGC ATC CAC CTG CTC Thr Ala Ala Glu Phe Arg Ile Tyr Lys Val Pro Ser Ile His Leu Leu 145	960

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	AAC Asn	AGG Arg	ACC Thr 160	CTC Leu	CAC His	GTC Val	AGC Ser	ATG Met 165	TTC Phe	CAG Gln	GTG Val	GTC Val	CAG Gln 170	GAG Glu	CAG Gln	TCC Ser	1008
5	AAC Asn	AGG Arg 175	GAG Glu	TCT Ser	GAC Asp	TTG Leu	TTC Phe 180	TTT Phe	TTG Leu	GAT Asp	CTT Leu	CAG Gln 185	ACG Thr	CTC Leu	CGA Arg	GCT Ala	1056
10	GGA Gly 190	GAC Asp	GAG Glu	GGC Gly	TGG Trp	CTG Leu 195	GTG Val	CTG Leu	GAT Asp	GTC Val	ACA Thr 200	GCA Ala	GCC Ala	AGT Ser	GAC Asp	TGC Cys 205	1104
15	TGG Trp	TTG Leu	CTG Leu	AAG Lys	CGT Arg 210	His	AAG Lys	GAC Asp	CTG Leu	GGA Gly 215	Leu	CGC	CTC Leu	TAT Tyr	GTG Val 220	GAG Glu	1152
20	ACT Thr	GAG Glu	GAC Asp	GGG Gly 225	CAC His	AGC Ser	GTG Val	GAT Asp	CCT Pro 230	GGC Gly	CTG Leu	GCC Ala	GGC Gly	CTG Leu 235	CTG Leu	GGT Gly	1200
20	CAA Gln	CGG Arg	GCC Ala 240	CCA Pro	CGC Arg	TCC Ser	CAA Gln	CAG Gln 245	CCT Pro	TTC Phe	GTG Val	GTC Val	ACT Thr 250	TTC Phe	TTC Phe	AGG Arg	1248
25	GCC Ala	AGT Ser 255	CCG Pro	AGT Ser	CCC Pro	ATC Ile	CGC Arg 260	ACC Thr	CCT Pro	CGG Arg	GCA Ala	GTG Val 265	AGG Arg	CCA Pro	CTG Leu	AGG Arg	1296
30	AGG Arg 270	AGG Arg	CAG Gln	CCG Pro	AAG Lys	AAA Lys 275	AGC Ser	AAC Asn	GAG Glu	CTG Leu	CCG Pro 280	CAG Gln	GCC Ala	AAC Asn	CGA Arg	CTC Leu 285	1344
35	CCA Pro	GGG Gly	ATC Ile	TTT Phe	GAT Asp 290	GAC Asp	GTC Val	CAC His	GGC Gly	TCC Ser 295	CAC His	GGC Gly	CGG Arg	CAG Gln	GTC Val 300	TGC Cys	1392
40	CGT Arg	CGG Arg	CAC His	GAG Glu 305	CTC Leu	TAC Tyr	GTC Val	AGC Ser	TTC Phe 310	CAG Gln	GAC Asp	CTC Leu	GGC Gly	TGG Trp 315	CTG Leu	GAC Asp	1440
40	TGG Trp	GTC Val	ATC Ile 320	GCT Ala	CCC Pro	CAA Gln	GGC Gly	TAC Tyr 325	TCG Ser	GCC Ala	TAT Tyr	TAC Tyr	TGT Cys 330	GAG Glu	GGG Gly	GAG Glu	1488
45	TGC Cys	TCC Ser 335	TTC Phe	CCA Pro	CTG Leu	GAC Asp	TCC Ser 340	TGC Cys	ATG Het	AAT Asn	GC <u>C</u> Ala	ACC Thr 345	AAC Asn	CAC His	GCC Ala	ATC Ile	1536

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		Gln										Ala				GCG Ala 365	1584
5				CCC Pro												Asp	1632
10 _.				AAC Asn 385													1680
15				TGC Cys		T GA	AGTC	AGCC	C GC	CCAG	CCCT	ACT	GCAG				1723
	(2)	INF	ORMA!	TION	FOR	SEQ	ID 1	10: 8:	•								
20			(i) :	(B)	LEN	CHAR IGTH: PE: a	402	ami	ino a id		5						
25		(:	ii) I	HOLEC	ULE	ŢYPE	l: p1	ote	ln								
		(:	ki) S	SEQUE	ENCE	DESC	RIPI	CION	SE(ID	NO:8	3:					
30	Het 1	Thr	Ala	Leu	Pro 5	Gly	Pro	Leu	Trp	Leu 10	Leu	Gly	Leu	Ala	Leu 15	Cys	
	Ala	Leu	Gly	Gly 20	Gly	Gly	Pro	Gly	Leu 25	Arg	Pro	Pro	Pro	Gly 30	Cys	Pro	
35	Gln	Arg	Arg 35	Leu	Gly	Ala	Arg	Glu 40	Arg	Arg	Asp	Val	Gln 45	Arg	Glu	Ile	
10	Leu	Ala 50	Val	Leu	Gly	Leu	Pro 55	Gly	Arg	Pro	Arg	Pro 60	Arg	Ala	Pro	Pro	
	Ala 65	Ala	Ser	Arg	Leu	Pro 70	Ala	Ser	Ala	Pro	Leu 75	Phe	Het	Leu	Asp	Leu 80	
15	Tyr	His	Ala	Met	Ala 85	Gly	Asp	Asp	Asp	Glu 90	Asp	Gly	Ala	Pro	Ala 95	Glu	
	Arg	Arg	Leu	Gly 100	Arg	Ala .	Asp	Leu	Val 105	Het	Ser	Phe	Val	Asn 110	Ket	Val	

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	Glu	Arg	Asp 115	Arg	Ala	Leu	Gly	His 120	Gln	Glu	Pro	His	Trp 125	Lys	Glu	Phe
5	Arg	Phe 130		Leu	Thr	Gln	Ile 135	Pro	Ala	Gly	Glu	Ala 140	Val	Thr	Ala	Ala
	Glu 145		Arg	Ile	Tyr	Lys 150	Val	Pro	Ser	Ile	His 155	Leu	Leu	Asn	Arg	Thr 160
10	Leu	His	Val	Ser	Met 165	Phe	Gln	Val	Val	Gln 170	Glu	Gln	Ser	Asn	Arg 175	Glu
15	Ser	Asp	Leu	Phe 180	Phe	Leu	Asp	Leu	Gln 185	Thr	Leu	Arg	Ala	Gly 190	Asp	Glu
73	Gly	Trp	Leu 195	Val	Leu	Asp	Val	Thr 200	Ala	Ala	Ser	Asp	Cys 205	Trp	Leu	Leu
20	Lys	Arg 210	His	Lys	Asp	Leu	Gly 215	Leu	Arg	Leu	Tyr	Val 220	Glu	Thr	Glu	Asp
	Gly 225	His	Ser	Val	Asp	Pro 230	Gly	Leu	Ala	Gly	Leu 235	Leu	Gly	Gln	Arg	Ala 240
25	Pro	Arg	Ser	Gln	Gln 245	Pro	Phe	Val	Val	Thr 250	Phe	Phe	Arg	Ala	Ser 255	Pro
30	Ser	Pro	Ile	Arg 260	Thr	Pro	Arg	Ala	Val 265	Arg	Pro	Leu	Arg	Arg 270	Arg	Gln
50	Pro	Lys	Lys 275	Ser	Asn	Glu	Leu	Pro 280	Gln	Ala	Asn	Arg	Leu 285	Pro	Gly	Ile
35	Phe	Asp 290	Asp	Val	His	Gly	Ser 295	His	Gly	Arg	Gln	Val 300	Cys	Arg	Arg	His
	Glu 305	Leu	Tyr	Val	Ser	Phe 310	Gln	Asp	Leu	Gly	Trp 315	Leu	Asp	Trp	Val	Ile 320
40	Ala	Pro	Gln	Gly	Tyr 325	Ser	Ala	Tyr	Tyr	Cys 330	Glu	Gly	Glu	Cys	Ser 335	Phe
45	Pro	Leu	Asp	Ser 340	Cys	Met	Asn	Ala	Thr 345	Asn	His	Ala	Ile	Leu 350	Gln	Ser
-2.0	Leu		His 355	Leu	Het	Lys	Pro	Asn 360	Ala	Val	Pro	Lys	Ala 365	Cys	Cys	Ala

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	PIC	370		Leu	ı ser	Ala	375		. vai	ren	ı 1 yr	380	_	Ser	Ser	Asn	
5	Asn 385		l Ile	Leu	Arg	Lys 390		Arg	Asn	Het	Val 395		Lys	Ala	Cys	Gly 400	
	Cys	His	3										٠				
10	(2)	INI	ORMA	TION	FOR	SEQ	ID 1	NO:9	:								
15		į)	(A) L B) T C) S	CE CI ENGTI YPE: TRANI OPOL	H: 19 nuc. DEDNI	926 leic ESS:	base aci sin	pai: d	rs							
20		(vi	(A) 0	AL SO RGAN: ISSU	ISH:	MUR.		YO								
25		(ix	(I	A) N B) L	AME/I OCATI THER /pi	CON:	93. ORMAT	NOI?	: /f1 2-PP'		ion=	"OS!	TEOGI	ENIC	PRO?	rein"	
30		(xi) SE	QUEN	CE DE	SCRI	PTIC)N: S	SEQ]	D NO	0:9:						
	GCC	AGGC.	ACA (GTG	CGCCG	T CI	GGTC	CTC	ccc	TCT	GCG	TCAC	GCCGA	GC C	CGAC	CAGCT	60
35	ACCA	\GTG	GAT (GCGC(GCCGG	C TG	AAAG	TCC	G AG				CGT Arg				113
0	CTC Leu	TGG Trp	CTA Leu 10	TTG Leu	GGC Gly	CTT Leu	GCT Ala	CTG Leu 15	TGC Cys	GCG Ala	CTG Leu	GGA Gly	GGC Gly 20	GGC Gly	CAC His	GGT Gly	161
5	CCG Pro	CGT Arg 25	Pr _o	CCG Pro	CAC His	ACC Thr	TGT Cys 30	CCC Pro	CAG Gln	CGT Arg	CGC Arg	CTG Leu 35	GGA Gly	GCG Ala	CGC Arg	GAG Glu	209
-	CGC Arg 40	Arg	Asp	Net	CAG Gln	Arg	Glu	Ile	Leu	Ala	Val	Leu	Gly	Leu	Pro	Gly	257

	CGG Arg	CCC Pro	CGA Arg	CCC Pro	CGT Arg 60	GCA Ala	CAA Gln	CCC Pro	GCC Ala	GCT Ala 65	GCC Ala	CGG Arg	CAG Gln	CCA Pro	GCG Ala 70	TCC Ser	305
5	GCG Ala				ATG Het												353
10	GAC Asp	GGC Gly	GGG Gly 90	CCA Pro	CCA Pro	CAG Gln	GCT Ala	CAC His 95	TTA Leu	GGC	CGT Arg	GCC Ala	GAC Asp 100	CTG Leu	GTC Val	ATG Met	401
15	AGC Ser	TTC Phe 105	GTC Val	AAC Asn	ATG Met	GTG Val	GAA Glu 110	CGC Arg	GAC Asp	CGT Arg	ACC Thr	CTG Leu 115	GGC Gly	TAC Tyr	CAG Gln	GAG Glu	449
20	CCA Pro 120	CAC His	TGG Trp	AAG Lys	GAA Glu	TTC Phe 125	CAC His	TTT Phe	GAC Asp	CTA Leu	ACC Thr 130	CAG Gln	ATC Ile	CCT Pro	GCT Ala	GGG Gly 135	497
					GCT Ala 140												545
25					ACA Thr												593
30					AGG Arg												. 641
35					GAC Asp												689
40					CTG Leu												737
40					GCG Ala 220												785
45	CTG Leu	CTT Leu	GGA Gly	CGA Arg 235	CAA Gln	GCA Ala	CCA Pro	CGC Arg	TCC Ser 240	AGA Arg	CAG Gln	CCT Pro	TTC Phe	ATG Met 245	GTA Val	ACC Thr	833

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	TTC Phe	TTC Phe	AGG Arg 250	GCC Ala	AGC Ser	CAG Gln	AGT Ser	CCT Pro 255	GTG Val	CGG Arg	GCC Ala	CCT Pro	CGG Arg 260	GCA Ala	GCG Ala	AGA Arg	881
5	CCA Pro	CTG Leu 265	AAG Lys	AGG Arg	AGG Arg	CAG Gln	CCA Pro 270	AAG Lys	AAA Lys	ACG Thr	AAC Asn	GAG Glu 275	CTT Leu	CCG Pro	CAC His	CCC Pro	929
10	AAC Asn 280	AAA Lys	CTC Leu	CCA Pro	GGG Gly	ATC Ile 285	TTT Phe	GAT Asp	GAT Asp	GGC	CAC His 290	GGT Gly	TCC Ser	CGC Arg	GGC	AGA Arg 295	977
15			TGC Cys											Asp			1025
20			GAC Asp													TGT Cys	1073
			GAG Glu 330														1121
25			ATC Ile														1169
30	CCC Pro 360	AAG Lys	GCA Ala	TGC Cys	TGT Cys	GCA Ala 365	CCC Pro	ACC Thr	AAA Lys	CTG Leu	AGT Ser 370	GCC Ala	ACC Thr	TCT Ser	GTG Val	CTG Leu 375	1217
35			GAC Asp														1265
40			AAG Lys						TGAG	GCCC	CCG (CCCAC	CATO	CC TC	GCTT(CTACT	1319
	ACCI	TACC	CAT	CTGGC	CGGG	C CC	CTCI	CCAG	AGG	CAGA	LAAC	CCTI	CTAT	GT 1	CATCA	TAGCT	1379
	CAGA	CAGG	GG C	CAATO	GGAG	G CC	CTTC	ACTI	CCC	CTGG	CCA	CTT	CTG	TA A	LAAI	CTGGT	1439
45	CTTI	CCCA	GT I	CCTC	TGTC	C TI	CATO	GGGI	TTC	:GGGG	CTA	TCAC	ccc	CC C	CTCTC	CATCC	1499
	TCCI	ACCC	CA A	GCAT	'AGAC	T GA	ATGC	ACAC	AGC	ATCC	CAG	AGCI	CATGO	TA A	CTGA	GAGGT	1559

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	CIG	GGGT	CAG	CACI	GAAG	GC C	CACA	TGAG	G AA	GACT	'GATC	CII	GGCC	ATC	CTCA	GCCC	AC	161
	AAT	GGCA	AAT	TCTG	GATG	GT C	TAAG	AAGG	c cc	TGGA	ATTC	TAA	ACTA	GAT	GATO	TGGG	CT	167
5	CTC	TGCA	CCA	TTCA	TTGT	GG C	AGTT	GGGA	C AT	TTTT	AGGT	ATA	ACAG	ACA	CATA	CACT	TA	173
	GAT	CAAT	GCA	TCGC	TGTA	CT C	CTTG	AAAT	C AG	AGCT	AGCT	TGT	TAGA	AAA	AGAA	TCAG	AG	179
10	CCA	GGTA	TAG	CGGT	GCAT	GT C	ATTA	ATCC	C AG	CGCT.	AAAG	AGA	CAGA	GAC	AGGA	GAAT	CT	1859
10	CTG	TGAG	TTC	AAGG	CCAC.	AT A	GAAA	GAGC	C TG	TCTC	GGGA	GCA	GGAA	AAA	AAAA	AAAA	AC	1919
	GGA.	ATTC					•											192
15	(2)	INF	ORMA	TION	FOR	SEQ	ID	NO:10	0:									
20			(i)	(A (B) LE	NGTH PE:	RACT: 39	9 ami	ino . id		s							٠
		(ii)	MOLE	CULE	TYP	E: p:	rotei	in									
25		(:	xi)	SEQU	ENCE	DES	CRIP'	rion:	SE(Q ID	NO:	10:						
	Met 1	Ala	Het	Arg	Pro 5	Gly	Pro	Leu	Trp	Leu 10	Leu	Gly	Leu	Ala	Leu 15	Cys		
30	Ala	Leu	Gly	Gly 20	Gly	His	Gly	Pro	Arg 25	Pro	Pro	His	Thr	Cys 30	Pro	Gln		
15	Arg	Arg	Leu 35	Gly	Ala	Arg	Glu	Arg 40	Arg	Asp	Met	Gln	Arg 45	Glu	Ile	Leu		
	Ala	Val 50	Leu	Gly	Leu	Pro	Gly 55	Arg	Pro	Arg	Pro	Arg 60	Ala	Gln	Pro	Ala		
0	Ala 65	Ala	Arg	Gln	Pro	Ala 70	Ser	Ala	Pro	Leu	Phe 75	Неt	Leu	Asp	Leu	Tyr 80		
	His	Ala	Het	Thr	Asp 85	Asp	Asp	Asp	Gly	Gly 90	Pro	Pro	Gln	Ala	His 95	Leu		
5	Gly	Arg	Ala	Asp 100	Leu	Val	Het		Phe 105	Val	Asn	Неt	Val	Glu 110	Arg	Asp		

	Arg	Thr	Leu 115	Gly	Tyr	Gln	Glu	Pro 120	His	Trp	Lys	Glu	Phe 125	His	Phe	Asp
5	Leu	Thr 130	Gln	Ile	Pro	Ala	Gly 135	Glu	Ala	Val	Thr	Ala 140	Ala	Glu	Phe	Arg
	Ile 145	Tyr	Lys	Glu	Pro	Ser 150	Thr	His	Pro	Leu	Asn 155	Thr	Thr	Leu	His	Ile 160
10	Ser	Met	Phe	Glu	Val 165	Val	Gln	Glu	His	Ser 170	Asn	Arg	Glu	Ser	Asp 175	Leu
15	Phe	Phe	Leu	Asp 180	Leu	Gln	Thr	Leu	Arg 185	Ser	Gly	Asp	Glu	Gly 190	Trp	Leu
	Val	Leu	Asp 195	Ile	Thr	Ala	Ala	Ser 200	Asp	Arg	Trp	Leu	Leu 205	Asn	His	His
20	Lys	Asp 210	Leu	Gly	Leu	Arg	Leu 215	Tyr	Val	Glu	Thr	Ala 220	Asp	Gly	His	Ser
	Het 225	Asp	Pro	Gly	Leu	Ala 230	Gly	Leu	Leu	Gly	Arg 235	Gln	Ala	Pro	Arg	Ser 240
25	Arg	Gln	Pro	Phe	Het 245	Val	Thr	Phe	Phe	Arg 250	Ala	Ser	Gln	Ser	Pro '	Val
30	Arg	Ala	Pro	Arg 260	Ala	Ala	Arg	Pro	Leu 265	Lys	Arg	Arg	Gln	Pro 270	Lys	Lys
J U	Thr	Asn	Glu 275	Leu	Pro	His	Pro	Asn 280	Lys	Leu	Pro	Gly	Ile 285	Phe	Asp	Asp
35	Gly	His 290	Gly	Ser	Arg	Gly	Arg 295	Glu	Val	Cys	Arg	Arg 300	His	Glu	Leu	Tyr
	Val 305	Ser	Phe	Arg	Asp	Leu 310	Gly	Trp	Leu	Asp	Trp 315	Val	Ile	Ala	Pro	Gln 320
10	Gly	Tyr	Ser	Ala	Tyr 325	Tyr	Cys	Glu	Gly	Glu 330	Cys	Ala	Phe	Pro	Leu 335	Asp
15	Ser	Cys	Het	Asn 340	Ala	Thr	Asn	His	Ala 345	Ile	Leu	Gln	Ser	Leu 350	Val	His
	Leu	Het	Lys 355	Pro	Asp	Val	Val	Pro 360	Lyś	Ala	Cys	Cys	Ala 365	Pro	Thr	Lys

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Leu Ser Ala Thr Ser Val Leu Tyr Tyr Asp Ser Ser Asn Asn Val Ile 370 380

Leu Arg Lys His Arg Asn Het Val Val Lys Ala Cys Gly Cys His 5 385 390 395

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:11:
- 10 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 6418 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

15 (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

- (ix) FEATURE:
- 20 (A) NAME/KEY: misc_feature
 - (B) LOCATION: $1..6\overline{3}61$
 - (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /note= "HOP-2 genomic sequence"
 - (ix) FEATURE:
- 25 (A) NAME/KEY: exon
 - (B) LOCATION: 1..837
 - (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /note= "EXON ONE"
 - (ix) FEATURE:
- 30 (A) NAME/KEY: misc feature
 - (B) LOCATION: 884..885
 - (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /note= "A Gap Occurs Between Positions 884 and 885 in this Sequence"
- 35 (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: exon
 - (B) LOCATION: 1088..1277
 - (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /note= "EXON TWO"
- 40 (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: exon
 - (B) LOCATION: 1350..1814
 - (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /note= "EXON THREE"
- 45 (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: misc_feature
 - (B) LOCATION: 1834.1835
 - (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /note= "A Gap Occurs Between Positions 1834 and 1835 in this Sequence"

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	(ix) FEATURE: (A) NAME/KEY: exon (B) LOCATION: 18832077	
5	(D) OTHER INFORMATION: /note= "EXON FOUR"	
10	<pre>(ix) FEATURE: (A) NAME/KEY: exon (B) LOCATION: 29022981 (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /note= "EXON FIVE"</pre>	
15	<pre>(ix) FEATURE: (A) NAME/KEY: exon (B) LOCATION: 35073617 (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /note= "EXON SIX"</pre>	
13	<pre>(ix) FEATURE: (A) NAME/KEY: exon (B) LOCATION: 61166361 (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /note= "EXON SEVEN"</pre>	
20	(b) Olima information. /note- main burm	
	(x1) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:11:	•
25	GGAATTCCGG CCACAGTGGC GCCGGCAGAG CAGGAGTGGC TGGAGGAGCT GTGGTTGGAG	. 60
23	CAGGAGGTGG CACGGCAGGG CTGGAGGGCT CCCTATGAGT GGCGGAGACG GCCCAGGAGG	120
	CGCTGGAGCA ACAGCTCCCA CACCGCACCA AGCGGTGGCT GCAGGAGCTC GCCCATCGCC	180
30	CCTGCGCTGC TCGGACCGCG GCCACAGCCG GACTGGCGGG TACGGCGGCG ACAGACGGAT	240
	TGGCCGAGAG TCCCAGTCCG CAGAGTAGCC CCGGCCTCGA GGCGGTGGCG TCCGCGTCCT	300
٠.	CTCGTCCAGG AGCCAGGACA GGTGTCGCGC GGCGGGCCGT CCAGGGACCG CGCTGAGGCC	360
35	GCGGTCGCCC GTCCCGCCCC GCCCCGCCGC CCGAGCCCAG CCTCCTTGCC	420
	GTCGGGGCGT CCCCAGGCCC TGGGTCGGCC GCGGAGCCGA TGCGCGCCCG CTGAGCGCCC	480
10	CAGCTGAGCG CCCCCGGCCT GCCATGACCG CGCTCCCCGG CCCGCTCTGG CTCCTGGGCC	540
	TGGCGCTATG CGCGCTGGGC GGGGGCGGCC CCGGCCTGCG ACCCCCGCCC GGCTGTCCCC	600
	AGCGACGTCT GGGCGCGCG GAGCGCCGGG ACGTGCAGCG CGAGATCCTG GCGGTGCTCG	660
15	GGCTGCCTGG GCGGCCCCGG CCCCGCGCGC CACCCGCCGC CTCCCGGCTG CCCGCGTCCG	720
		780

	CGCCCGCGGA	GCGGCGCCTG	GGCCGCGCCG	ACCTGGTCAT	GAGCTTCGTT	AACATGGGTG	840
	AGTGCGGCGC	CCGCGCGGGG	ACCCTCGGAG	TAAACTGGCT	GCAGCTGCAG	GGCCTCTTCT	900
5	GGCTCTACAC	CCCGGGACCA	AGCCTGGAAC	AAACGTTTGC	ACTAAATGAA	GCCGGCCCCA	960
	CCCAGGCCTC	CCTGGGTCCG	CTCCACCTTG	AGTGGTGGGT	GGCTGGGGGC	GGTGGCTCAC	1020
••	ACCAGCTCTG	CCCCTCCAG	AGCCCGAGCC	ATTCTGAGTG	CCAGCCCAGC	GCTGCTTTGT	1080
10	CTTCTAGTGG	AGCGAGACCG	TGCCCTGGGC	CACCAGGAGC	CCCATTGGAA	GGAGTTCCGC	1140
	TTTGACCTGA	CCCAGATCCC	GGCTGGGGAG	GCGGTCACAG	CTGCGGAGTT	CCGGATTTAC	1200
15	AAGGTGCCCA	GCATCCACCT	GCTCAACAGG	ACCCTCCACG	TCAGCATGTT	CCAGGTGGTC	1260
	CAGGAGCAGT	CCAACAGGTG	CCTTCCCCTT	GGCCCGGGTG	CCCACCTAAC	CCCCACCTC	1320
20	ACAGTCTCAT	GGTCAAGGCA	GCCCAGCAGG	GAGTCGTGGT	GGGTGAAAGA	GAGCCTCAAA	1380
20	GATGGGAAGG	ATGCTTGGCC	CGAGGCCCTG	CACTGTGGGA	AGAGCCCCAG	TGACAATCCT	1440
	GACTTCAAGT	CCCTGCCCTC	CATCCTGCTG	TGGGGACTTG	GACATGGTCA	CTGAGACTCA	1500
25	GTTTCCCCAT	GTGTACACCT	CTGTGGGCTG	AGGCAATGAG	ATGAGGCTCA	GAAGGCCCA	1560
	GCCAGAGTCA	GGTGGGAGAC	GCTCCGGTGA	CAGCCCCCAG	CGGGCCCTGG	AGACACGGAG	1620
20	GCAGCTGTGC	CGGCCGCCGG	TTAATTGTTC	TTTCATGTCC	ACAGGGGAGT	CTGACTTGTT	1680
30	CTTTTTGGAT	CTTCAGACGC	TCCGAGCTGG	AGACGAGGGC	TGGCTGGTGC	TGGATGTCAC	1740
	AGCAGCCAGT	GACTGCTGGT	TGCTGAAGCG	TCACAAGGAC	CTGGGACTCC	GCCTCTATGT	1800
3 5	GGAGACTGAG	GACGGTGAGG	CTGGGGCTCT	GCAGCTGCAG	AGCCACTGCC	CGTGAGTGAC	1860
	CCCTCTCTCC	TTTCTGTCTC	AGGGCACAGC	GTGGATCCTG	GCCTGGCCGG	CCTGCTGGGT	1920
40	CAACGGGCCC	CACGCTCCCA	ACAGCCTTTC	GTGGTCACTT	TCTTCAGGGC	CAGTCCGAGT	1980
40	CCCATCCGCA	CCCCTCGGGC	AGTGAGGCCA	CTGAGGAGGA	GGCAGCCGAA	GAAAAGCAAC	2040
	GAGCTGCCGC	AGGCCAACCG	ACTCCCAGGG	ATCTTTGGTG	AGGGTCGGGC	AGGCTGGGGC	2100
45	GAGGCTGTGG	CTGTCTGGCT	GAGAGAGGCA	GGGCGAGAAC	CAAGTGGTGG	CCCAGAGCCC	2160
	AGAGCCTCAG	GCTAGGTCGG	TTCAAGCTGA	CGGCCACTCT	CCAGCCACCT	TTCCTGACAC	2220

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	CATCTTGGCC	CTGATGCACC	CTGGTGACCG	GCACTCCGAG	GCCTGTCCTG	GCTGTCCCTG	2280
	CTGCCAGAAG	TCTCCCTCTC	TCCCCCTGGC	TCCTCCGGGT	CTTTCTCAGG	AGCCTCCTTC	2340
5	AGAATCAGCT	GCCCCTTCCC	TGGGAGCCGC	AGCCCCTCAT	GACCTGCGGT	TGTGCCTGGG	2400
	CACCTGTGGA	TCCTCGGTTG	CTTATGCGAT	TTTCTCCCCA	ACTGGCCAAG	CTTCAGGATC	2460
10	AGGGACAGGC	CTGACCCAAC	CCCGTGCCCT	CCTTCCCAGG	GAGTCGGCCC	TTGACTGGCC	2520
	TGGTCGTGAG	CCACTTGAAC	CTCGGGAATG	GGTGTGGCAG	GAGAGGGTGG	GCTGGAGTCA	2580
	CAGGGGTCTC	CAGAGAGGAG	GAGGCACAGG	ATGGCCGAGG	GTCCTGCTGG	GCTGTTTACT	2640
15	GGAGCATAAA	GATGCTCATA	GGCTGAAGGA	CAGGGGAGGA	CTGGGCACAG	TGTCACTCTA	2700
	GCCATTGGGA	GCCATGGCAG	GCTTCTGAGC	TGGGTCATGG	TACAAGCAGA	GTTCCAGGGA	2760
20	TGGGCTTTAT	GAGCCAAATG	GTTTCCTGTC	ATTCATTTAT	TTGACAAATG	TGCTCATCAG	2820
	GGCATCCCCC	ACCCTGGTAC	CCCATAGTAG	CTGCACACAG	CAGGAACCCC	AGAAAAGACC	2880
	TTGCCCCTTC	TGTCCCTGCA	GATGACGTCC	ACGGCTCCCA	CGGCCGGCAG	GTCTGCCGTC	2940
2 5	GGCACGAGCT	CTACGTCAGC	TTCCAGGACC	TCGGCTGGCT	GGTAATTGCT	GACTCTCCTT	3000
	GTTTCTGAAA	TGACAATCAC	CACCTGTAGA	TCAGAAGTGA	ATCTGCAGGG	AGGACATAGA	3060
30	ATCATGGTGA	CTTCAATTTT	CTTATGTATT	TTTTTCTTCT	GTGTTTTCCA	AGTTTTCTAA	3120
	AGTGAGAATA	TGGTGAGAAA	GGGTTTTGTT	GTTGTTGTTG	TGTTTTTTGT	TTTTTTTAA	3180
	AAACCCATGA	AAATGAAGAC	TGAATCAACC	AACTAAGCTG	TCAGCATTGC	CGCAGGGTAA	3240
35	CTGAGACCTC	CCTGCATTGG	CTACGACTGC	AGCTCTGGGA	GGTGTGGGCA	GGGGAGGGCC	3300
	GGCTGGGGAG	GGCCGGCTGG	GGAGGGGACA	CAAAGTGAAG	ATGGGGGTTG	TTGGGCCTGA	3360
40	GCTCCTGCCC	AGCCTTTTCC	GCCGGGGTTC	CTGGGTGGAT	TCAAGCCTCT	TGGGGGAGAC	3420
	GCGCTGCAGG	GCTGGAGGAT	GGGCTTTGGG	CCCTGAGGCT	CAGGGAGGAG	CACATGGATG	3480
	GGACTCACCT	TCTCCCTTGC	CCCCAGGACT	GGGTCATCGC	TCCCCAAGGC	TACTCGGCCT	3540
45	ATTACTGTGA	GGGGGAGTGC	TCCTTCCCAC	TGGACTCCTG.	CATGAATGCC	ACCAACCACG	3600
	CCATCCTGCA	GTCCCTGGTC	GATACCGTCG	CCCATCCTGC	CCAGCCCCCT	GGTGGAGGCC	3660

	CTCCAGAGAG	СССТСТССТС	CAGCCAGCCG	GCAGGCAGTG	AGGCCACCTG	CTCCATGTCT	3720
	CGGGGCTTTG	TCTGCACAGA	GTCAGTAACG	TCGCTAACTT	CCCACAGCTC	TGCAGGAACT	3780
5	GGTCCTCATA	CAGCCACACT	ACTACACATA	GACCCACACC	CAAACACGGA	CACACGTGAA	3840
	CAGTCGCGTA	TCATGCCTGT	TCTATGCACT	GAACAAACTC	CTGTGGGACA	CTTACACACC	3900
10	TGCGTGCGGC	GCTCAGAGGC	ACAGCACATG	AAACAGATGT	GTACACTGTG	TGGGGGCTGT	3960
10	GTGATCTTAA	CACACGGGCC	CCCGAGTACG	CTGGCAAGTC	TGACCGCCCG	TGATATGTGC	4020
	GCACAGTGTG	TGGGGTGTGC	GTGTGCATCA	CCCACCTGTG	CCGCACCACA	GGTAGGAAGC	4080
15	TTCTAGATGG	TGTGGCTCTC	AACCTTTTGG	CTTTTTCCCG	CAGTTTCTCT	CTTGGCTGTC	4140
	TGTGTTTTCT	CTGGATCCCC	TGGCTTTTGA	TGCCGTTGGT	GTCTGGGGCA	ACCTTAAAGG	4200
20	ACAAAAGCAG	GCTTCTGATG	GGATCACTGG	TGCTGCTCAC	CACTGAGTGC	TCGTGTGTTT	4260
20	GCGGATTCTG	GCACCGAGGC	TTCCTTCTAG	AAGTTTTTAC	CTAGAATCCC	AGTTCCTGGT	4320
	ATTGCACAGC	CTTATGTTTT	CCTCTTAGGA	GGTTCAACGG	TGATGCCTTG	ATCAGGCGCA	4380
25	GTGGCTCACC	CTGTAATCGC	AGCACACGAG	CCCAGAAGTT	CAAGACAAGC	CTGAGCAACA	4440
	CAGCAAAACC	CTGTCTCTAA	TTAAAAATA	AAAACACACA	CACACACACA	CACACACACA	4500
30	CACACACGTG	CGCACACAAT	GCCTTGGTGT	GAGAGGAAAG	AAATTACCAA	AAGCTGCTCT	4560
30	GAGCCTATGA	TAATACTTCC	TTTCTGGGCA	GTCAAATGGT	GTTTGCTGGA	CACCCTGGAG	4620
	CCATCTCCTT	GGAAAGGCCC	AGGGGTGATG	AGGAGCTCCG	TCGGGGTGGC	CTGGCCAGCA	4680
35	CCTTTATGCC	GTGTGGTTCT	CACAGCTGCA	TGTGTGGGAG	GTACATGGGA	AGGTGACTGC	4740
	ACCTGCGCTC	CTGGACTCCA	TCTCCTCTGC	CCTTGCCCCT	GCCCTCACG	TGCAACTAGA	4800
40	GTGAGTGCTC	ACAGCCTACA	GGGCAGCAAA	CAGGCACTGT	GCTCTAGGGG	AGGCTGTCGG	4860
40	TGGGCACAGA	AGCAAACCAA	CCGTGGAGTT	GACACCTCCT	GTGAGGAAGA	GCAGACGAGC	4920
	CGTGCCGTCA	GTGGAGTGAG	ACTGGGCCCA	GCTCTCCACA	CAAGGAGGGG	CACGTCAGCA	4980
45	GCTGGAGGAG	GAATGTTCCA	GAAGGAGCAA	GTGCAAGGCC.	CTAAGACAGG	AGCAGGCTGG	5040
	CCCTAAGTTC	AGGGCAGGGG	AGGAGAGGGG	CTGGGTGCAG	TGAAGGGGAG	GAGAGTGGAG	5100

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	GGAGGTGATC	CGGGGTGATA	GGCCAGCTCC	CGTAGCCTGG	GTTCCCTGGG	AAGAGGGTGG	5160
	ATTTTATTCC	AAGCAACCCC	AGAGGCTGTC	AGAGGTCTTC	AGCAAAGAGT	GTCCTTGGTC	5220
5	TGCGTCACCC	TCCAGAAGGA	CCTTTCTGGC	TTGGGGAGGT	CGCGGGAGTG	GAAGGCAGAG	5280
	GAGCAGGGGA	TGAGTGAGGG	CTGCTGTGGT	CACCTGGCAG	GTGATGGCAG	CTCGACTGGG	5340
10	CAGGTGGTCC	GAGGCAGCAC	GGAGGTGGAG	GTTGAGCCAG	GGGCTGCTCT	CAGGGAAGGG	5400
10	AGGAGGCGAA	AGGAGTCATC	CAGGAGGCCT	CCCAGGCGGG	AGCTATGATG	TCAGGGCGGG	5460
	AGGAATTCTA	TGTTCCACTG	AGGCCTCATT	AGACCCCCAA	GTGCAGAAGT	GGGAAGGGGA	5520
15	GCAGGATCCG	CAAGTCTGGA	GTTCAGAAGA	GAGGTCCAAG	CTGAGCCAGG	GGAGTGGAGA	5580
	GGTGCGGGCC	AATGCAGGGC	CTTGAAGTGC	TGAGGGCGGA	TCGAGTCCTC	TGGGAGAAGG	5640
20	AGCAGCACAG	GAGAGGGGC	GAGGCTGGCT	CCCAGAGCCT	GGGGAGGGAG	GCAGGTGTGG	5700
20	GGAGGCAGAG	CTTGGGGGGG	TCTGAAGGC	TATAAGAAGA	CAGTGGTCCT	TCCAGGTTCC	5760
	CCCTTGGACC	TCACTAAGGG	CACAAACCTG	GCCATGAGGT	TCTCCTTCCC	ATTATCCCCA	5820
25	GGAGGAAGTC	TGAGCCCTTG	GCCTGGGACT	CGAGGCCCCT	CATTAGTGCC	CTGCCCACCT	5880
	GCCCCACACC	CTGGGGCTGC	CATGTATCCC	TCCCTGGGCA	CTGTGGGCAC	CACAGCTCCC	5940
30	GCTCCCAGAG	CTCTCAGGGC	TGCTCTTATT	CCTGTTAATA	ATTCTTATTA	TTGTGCTGCT	6000
30	CCCATGTGGC	TTGGAGATGG	CCAGGGCAGG	GAGCAGGTGG	AGCTGGGGCG	GGCTAGGTGG	6060
	GTCCTCAGAG	GAGGCCACTG	GCTCATGCCC	CTGCCTGTGC	TCCCTTCCTG	GCCAGGTGCA	6120
35	CCTGATGAAG	CCAAACGCAG	TCCCCAAGGC	GTGCTGTGCA	CCCACCAAGC	TGAGCGCCAC	6180
	CTCTGTGCTC	TACTATGACA	GCAGCAACAA	CGTCATCCTG	CGCAAGCACC	GCAACATGGT	6240
40	GGTCAAGGCC	TGCGGCTGCC	ACTGAGTCAG	CCCGCCCAGC	CCTACTGCAG	CCACCCTTCT	6300
40	CATCTGGATC	GGGCCCTGCA	GAGGCAGAAA	ACCCTTAAAT	GCTGTCACAG	CTCAAGCAGG	6360
	AGTGTCAGGG	GCCCTCACTC	TCTGTGCCTA	CTTCCTGTCA	GGCTTCTGGT	CCTTTCTC	6418

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	(2)	INFO	KHAT	TON	FUK	SEQ	TD M	0:12	: .								
5		(i)	(A (B (C) LE) TY) ST	NGTH PE: RAND	ARAC : 97 amin EDNE GY:	ami o ac SS:	no a id sing	cids								
10		(ii)	HOL	ECUL	E TY	PE:	prot	ein									
15		(ix)	(A (B) NA	HE/K CATI	EY:	19	7 .	/la	hel=	Gen	eric	-Sea	-7			
			,-	, 02.	/no	te= m a ; defi	"whe: grou	rein p of	eaci	h Xa	a is more	ind spe	epen cifi	dent.			
20		(xi)	SEQ	UENC	E DE	SCRI	PTIO	N: S	EQ I	ON O	:12:				•		
25		Leu 1	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Phe 5	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Gly	Trp 10	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa 15	Xaa
		Pro	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa 20	Xaa	Ala	Xaa	Tyr	Cys 25	Xaa	Gly	Xaa	Cys	Xaa 30	Xaa	Pro
30		Xaa	Xaa	Xaa 35	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa 40	Asn	His	Ala	Xaa	Xaa 45	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa
		Xaa	Xaa 50	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa 55	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xạa	Xaa 60	Cys	Cys	Xaa	Pro
35		Xaa 65	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa 70	Xaa	Xaa	Leu	Xaa	Xaa 75	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Хад 80
^		Val	Xaa	Leu	Xaa	Xaa 85	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Het	Xaa 90	Val	Xaa	Xaa	Cys	Xaa 95	Cys
.0		Xaa															

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	(2)	INFO	RMAT	ION	FOR :	SEQ :	ID N	0:13	:								
5		(i)	(A (B (C) LE) TY) ST	E CH NGTH PE: RAND POLO	: 10: amin EDNE:	2 am o ac SS:	ino i id sing:	acid	S							
10		(ii)	HOL	ECUL	E TY	PE: 1	prot	ein									
15		(ix)	(A (B) NA	ME/K CATION HER : /no	ON: INFO te=	11 RMAT "whe:	02 ION: rin (each	Xaa	is:	inde	pend	-8 ently			
										peci:				eu ai	HIHO	acı	
20																	
		(xi)	SEQ	JENC:	E DES	SCRI	PTIO	N: S1	EQ II	O NO:	:13:						
25		Cys 1	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa 5	Leu	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Phe 10	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Gly	Trp 15	Xaa
		Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa 20	Xaa	Pro	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa 25	Xaa	Ala	Xaa	Tyr	Cys 30	Xaa	Gly
30		Xaa	Cys	Xaa 35	Xaa	Pro	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa 40	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa 45	Asn	His	Ala
3 -		Xaa	Xaa 50	Xaa	Х̀аа	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa 55	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa 60	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa
35		Xaa 65	Cys	Cys	Xaa	Pro	Xaa 70	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa 75	Xaa	Xaa	Leu	Xaa	Xaa 80
40		Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa 85	Val	Xaa	Leu	Xaa	Xaa 90	Xaa	Xaa	Xaa	Het	Xaa 95	Va:
		Xaa	Xaa	Cys	Xaa 100	Cys	Xaa								•		

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What is claimed is:

- A substantially pure protein comprising the amino acid sequence defined by residues 303 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 2. The protein of claim 1 wherein said amino acid sequence is defined by residues 298 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 3. The protein of claim 2 wherein said amino acid sequence is defined by residues 264 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 4. The protein of claim 3 wherein said amino acid sequence is defined by residues 261 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 5. The protein of claim 4 wherein said amino acid sequence is defined by residues 18 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 6. The protein of claim 5 wherein said amino acid sequence is defined by residues 1 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.

- 7. A substantially pure antibody which binds to an epitope on a protein encoded by a nucleic acid comprising the DNA sequence defined by bases 69-1265 of Seq. ID No. 1.
- 8. A substantially pure nucleic acid comprising part or all of the DNA sequence defined by bases 1 to 1674 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 9. A substantially pure nucleic acid encoding a morphogenically active protein, said nucleic acid comprising a DNA sequence that hybridizes to part or all of the DNA sequence defined by bases 120 to 848 of Seq. ID No. 1, under stringent conditions, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 10. A substantially pure nucleic acid comprising part or all of the DNA sequence defined by bases 120 to 848 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 11. A substantially pure nucleic acid encoding a morphogenic protein, said nucleic acid comprising a DNA sequence defined by bases 975 to 1265 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.

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- 12. The nucleic acid of claim 11 wherein said DNA sequence is defined by bases 960 to 1265 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 13. The nucleic acid of claim 12 wherein said DNA sequence is defined by bases 858 to 1265 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 14. The nucleic acid of claim 13 wherein said DNA sequence is defined by bases 849 to 1265 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 15. The nucleic acid of claim 14 wherein said DNA sequence is defined by bases 120 to 1265 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 16. The nucleic acid of claim 15 wherein said DNA sequence is defined by bases 69-1265 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 17. A vector comprising at least part of the nucleic acid sequence defined by bases 69-1265 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof, wherein said sequence is sufficient to encode a morphogenic protein.

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- 18. A cell transformed with the vector of claim 17.
- 19. A cell adapted to express a nucleic acid comprising the sequence defined by bases 975-1265 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species or amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 20. A substantially pure morphogenic protein encoded by at least part of the nucleic acid sequence of Seq. ID No. 1 including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 21. A composition for increasing the progenitor cell population in a mammal comprising: progenitor cells, stimulated <u>ex vivo</u> by exposure to a morphogenically active fragment of OP-3, or allelic or species variants thereof, at a concentration and for a time sufficient such that said progenitor cells are stimulated to proliferate.
- 22. A composition for inducing tissue growth in a mammal comprising: progenitor cells, stimulated by exposure to a morphogenically active fragment of OP-3, or allelic or species variants thereof, at a concentration and for a time sufficient such that said progenitor cells, when disposed in vivo within a tissue locus, are capable of tissue-specific differentiation and proliferation within said locus.

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- 23. The composition of claim 21 or 22 wherein said morphogenically active fragment comprises amino acid residues 303 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1 or allelic, species and other variants thereof.
- 24. The composition of claim 23 wherein said morphogenically active fragment comprises amino acid residues 298 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1 or allelic, species and other variants thereof.
- 25. The composition of claim 24 wherein said morphogenically active fragment comprises amino acid residues 264 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1 or allelic, species and other variants thereof.
- 26. The composition of claim 25 wherein said morphogenically active fragment comprises amino acid residues 261 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1 or allelic, species and other variants thereof.
- 27. The composition of claim 26 wherein said morphogenically active fragment comprises amino acid residues 18 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1 or allelic, or species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 28. The composition of claim 27 wherein said morphogenically active fragment comprises amino acid residues 1 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1 or allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.

- 29. The composition of claim 21 or 22 wherein said progenitor cells are hemopoietic pluripotential stem cells.
- 30. The composition of claim 21 or 22 wherein said progenitor cells are of mesenchymal origin.
- 31. A composition for inducing the formation of replacement tissue at a tissue locus in a mammal comprising:

 a biocompatible, acellular matrix having components specific for said tissue and capable of providing a morphogenically permissive, tissue-specific environment; and a morphogenically active fragment of OP-3, or allelic or species variants thereof, for inducing the developmental cascade of tissue morphogenesis at said locus when absorbed on said matrix and provided to a tissue-specific locus requiring replacement tissue.
- 32. A composition for inducing the formation of replacement tissue at a tissue locus in a mammal comprising:

 a biocompatible, acellular matrix capable of providing a morphogenically permissive environment; and a morphogenically active fragment of OP-3, or allelic or species variants thereof, for inducing the developmental cascade of tissue morphogenesis at said locus when absorbed on said matrix and provided to a tissue-specific locus requiring replacement tissue.

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- 33. The composition of claim 31 or 32 wherein said morphogenically active fragment comprises amino acid residues 303 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 34. The composition of claim 33 wherein said morphogenically active fragment comprises amino acid residues 298 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 35. The composition of claim 34 wherein said morphogenically active fragment comprises amino acid residues 264 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 36. The composition of claim 35 wherein said morphogenically active fragment comprises amino acid residues 261 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 37. The composition of claim 36 wherein said morphogenically active fragment comprises amino acid residues 18 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.

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- 38. The composition of claim 32 wherein said morphogenically active fragment comprises amino acid residues 1 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 39. The composition of claim 31 or 32 wherein said matrix is biodegradable.
- 40. The composition of claim 31 or 32 wherein said matrix is derived from organ-specific tissue.
- 41. The composition of claim 31 or 32 wherein said matrix comprises collagen and cell attachment factors selected from the group consisting of glycosaminoglycans and proteoglycans.
- 42. The composition of claim 31 or 32 wherein said matrix defines a structure which permits the attachment, differentiation and proliferation of migratory progenitor cells from the body of said mammal.
- 43. A method of increasing a population of progenitor cells comprising the step of: contacting progenitor cells with a morphogenically active fragment of OP-3, or allelic or species variants thereof, at a concentration and for a time sufficient such that said progenitor cells are stimulated to proliferate.

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- 44. The method of claim 43 further comprising the step of:
 supplying said stimulated progenitor cells to a mammal to increase the progenitor cell population in said mammal.
- 45. A method of inducing tissue growth in a mammal comprising the step of:
 contacting progenitor cells with a morphogenically active fragment of OP-3, or allelic or species variants thereof, at a concentration and for a time sufficient such that said progenitor cells, when provided to a tissue-specific locus in a mammal, are capable of tissue-specific differentiation and proliferation at said locus.
- 46. The method of claim 43 or 45 wherein said progenitor cells are of mesenchymal origin.
- 47. A method of maintaining the phenotypic expression of differentiated cells in a mammal comprising the steps of:
 contacting said differentiated cells with a morphogenically active fragment of OP-3, or allelic or species variants thereof, at a concentration and for a time sufficient such that said cells are stimulated to express their phenotype.

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- 48. The method of claim 47 wherein said differentiated cells are senescent or quiescent cells.
- 49. A method of inducing tissue growth at a tissue locus in a mammal comprising:

 providing said locus with a morphogenically active fragment of OP-3, or allelic or species variants thereof, at a concentration and for a time sufficient such that said morphogenically active fragment, when provided to a morphogenically permissive tissue-specific locus, is capable of inducing the developmental cascade of tissue morphogenesis at said locus.
- 50. The method of claim 49 wherein said tissue is hepatic tissue, and said tissue locus is the liver.
- 51. The method of claim 49 wherein said tissue is cartilage or bone tissue, and said tissue locus is osteoporotic bone.
- 52. The method of claim 49 wherein said OP-3, or allelic or species variants thereof, is provided to said locus in association with a biocompatible, acellular matrix.
- 53. The method of claim 52 wherein said matrix has components specific for said tissue.

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- 54. The method of claim 52 wherein said matrix is biodegradable.
- 55. The method of claim 52 wherein said matrix is derived from organ-specific tissue.
- 56. The method of claim 52 wherein said matrix comprises collagen and cell attachment factors specific for said tissue.
- 57. The method of claim 52 wherein said matrix defines a structure which permits the attachment, differentiation and proliferation of migratory progenitor cells from the body of said mammal.
- 58. The method of claims 43, 45, 47 or 49 wherein said morphogenically active fragment comprises amino acid residues 303 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 59. The method of claim 58 wherein said morphogenically active fragment comprises amino acid residues 298 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 60. The method of claim 59 wherein said morphogenically active fragment comprises amino acid residues 264 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.

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- 61. The method of claim 60 wherein said morphogenically active fragment comprises amino acid residues 261 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 62. The method of claim 61 wherein said morphogenically active fragment comprises amino acid residues 18 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 63. The method of claim 62 wherein said morphogenically active fragment comprises amino acid residues 1 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- A method of producing a morphogenically active protein comprising the steps of:
 transfecting cells with a nucleic acid sequence encoding a morphogenic protein comprising the amino acid residues 303 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1; culturing said cells in a suitable culture medium; expressing said morphogenic protein from said nucleic acid; and isolating and purifying said protein from said culture medium.

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65. The method of claim 64 wherein said morphogenic protein comprises amino acid residues 298 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.

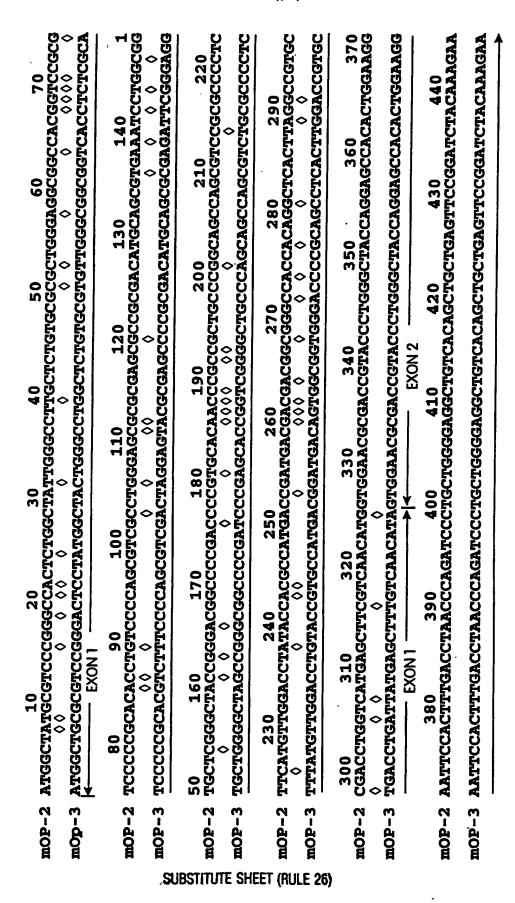
- 66. The method of claim 65 wherein said morphogenic protein comprises amino acid residues 264 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 67. The method of claim 66 wherein said morphogenic protein comprises amino acid residues 261 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 68. The method of claim 67 wherein said morphogenic protein comprises amino acid residues 18 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 69. The method of claim 68 wherein said morphogenic protein comprises amino acid residues 1 to 399 of Seq. ID No. 1, including allelic, species and other amino acid sequence variants thereof.
- 70. The protein of claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein said amino acid sequence variant has an amino acid substitution for the serine at position 315 or the cysteine at position 338 in Seq. ID No. 1.

- 71. The protein of claim 70 wherein said amino acid sequence variant has a tryptophan residue in place of the serine at position 315 in Seq. ID No. 1.
- 72. The protein of claim 70 wherein said cysteine residue at position 338 in Seq. ID No. 1 is substituted for an amino acid selected from the group consisting of tyrosine, histidine, isoleucine and serine.
- 73. A chimeric morphogen comprising the amino acid sequence of claim 1, 2 or 3.
- 74. The composition of claim 22, 23, 31 or 32 wherein said morphogen amino acid sequence variant has an amino acid substitution for the serine at position 315 or the cysteine at position 338 in Seq. ID No. 1.
- 75. The method of claim 43, 45, 47 or 49 wherein said morphogen amino acid sequence variant has an amino acid substitution for the serine at position 315 or the cysteine at position 338 in Seq. ID No. 1.
- 76. A morphogen comprising an amino acid sequence defined by Generic Sequence 7 or 8 (Seq. ID Nos. 12 or 13.)

- 77. The protein of claims 1, 2, 3 or 4 wherein said protein comprises a dimeric protein species complexed with a peptide comprising a pro region of a member of the morphogen family, or an allelic, species or other sequence variant thereof.
- 78. The protein of claim 77 wherein said dimeric protein species is noncovalently complexed with said peptide.
- 79. The protein of claim 77 wherein said dimeric protein species is complexed with two said peptides.
- 80. The protein of claim 77 wherein said peptide comprises at least the first 18 amino acids of a sequence defining said pro region.
- 81. The protein of claim 80 wherein said peptide comprises the full length form of said proregion.
- 82. The protein of claim 77 wherein said peptide comprises a nucleic acid that hybridizes under stringent conditions with a DNA defined by nucleotides 136-192 of Seq. ID No. 3 or nucleotides 157-211 of Seq. ID No. 7.

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- 83. the protein of claim 77 wherein said peptide comprises at least the first 18 amino acid of the pro region of OP3 (Seq. ID No. 1).
- 84. The protein of claim 77 wherein said complex is further stabilized by exposure to a basic amino acid, a detergent or a carrier protein.



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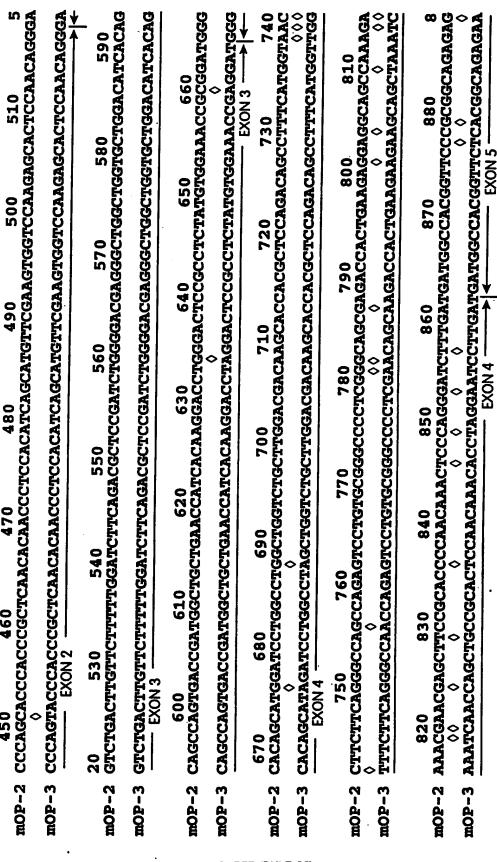


FIG. 1.2

EOF-2	900 900 900 900 920 920 930 940 950 960 960 mOP-2 GTTTGCCGAGGCATGAGCTCTAGGTTAGCTTAGGTTAGATTAGGTTAAGATCAGCTCCCCAAGA	910 Gagctctacg	920 TCAGCTTCC	930 Gtgaccttgg	940 CTGGCTGGA	026 026	096
MOP-3	mOP-3 GTTTGCCGCAGGCATGAGCTCTATGTCAGCTTCCGTGACCTTGGCTGGACTCTGTCATTGCCCCCCAGGG	GAGCTCTATG	TCAGCTTCC	GTGACCTTGG	CTGGCTGGA		CCCCCCAGGG
mOP-2 mOP-3	970 980 990 1000 1010 1020 1030 mOP-2 CTACTCTGCCTATTACTGTGAGGGGGGGGTGTGCTTTCCCACTGGACTCCTGTATGAACGCCACCAACCA	980 CTGTGAGGGG CTGTGCTGGG	990 GAGTGTGCT OOOO GAGTGCATC	1000 TTCCCACTGG	1010 ACTCCTGTA	1020 FGAACGCCACC	1030 AACCATGCCA AACCACGCCA
mOP-2 mOP-3	mop-2 TCTTGCAGTCTCTGATGAAGCCAGATGTTGTCCCCAAGGCATGCTGTGCACCCACC	1060 TGCACCTGATC \$ \$ TACATCTGATC	1070 GAAGCCAGA1 GAAGCCAGA1	1080 GTTGTCCCC O OO FATCATCCCC	1090 AAGGCATGCT OO AAGGTGTGCT	1100 GTGCACCCAC O O O	1110 CAAACTGAGT OO O
mOP-3	1120 1130 1150 1150 1160 1170 1180 mOP-2 GCCACCTCTGTGTGTGTGTGTGTGTCATGTCTTGTGTTATGTGTTGTTGTTGTTGTTGTTGTTGTTGTTGT	1130 TACTATGACA	1140 GCAGCAACA.	1150 ATGTCATCCT	1160 GCGTAAACAC	1170 CGTAACATGG	1180 PGGTCAAGGC

1190 1200 mOP-2 CTGTGGCTGCCACTGA

mOP-3 CTGTGGCTGCCACTGA

Fig. 1.3

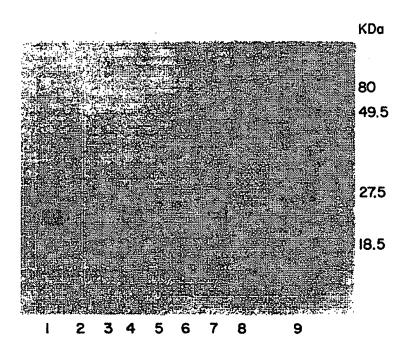


Fig. 2